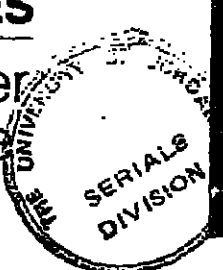




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# THE TIMES

No. 64,461 MONDAY OCTOBER 12 1992 45p

## Federalists seek power shift

# EC secret treaty plans a Europe without Britain

By GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS AND PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

SENIOR European Commission officials have drawn up a treaty for federal-minded states to pull out of the EC and set up their own community if the Maastricht agreement is not ratified.

Their treaty, which would come into effect if eight countries agreed, would mean the most fundamental shift of power since the EC was created in 1957. Dissenters — almost certainly including Britain — would be left behind as the fast-track countries went ahead with a new union in which no state would have a right of veto.

Work on the secret draft began after a meeting between President Mitterrand and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, in Paris three weeks ago as fears grew that Britain or Denmark would not ratify the Maastricht deal. At the time, there were reports that the two leaders had agreed to set up a five-nation mini-Europe with the Benelux

■ As John Major strives to salvage the Maastricht treaty at Friday's summit in Birmingham, a group of top Eurocrats has already created a blueprint for a new community in case he fails

countries, but these were denied. Mitterrand and Herr Kohl insisted they wanted to see Maastricht implemented as agreed last December and that they wanted to give John Major all the support he needed as European Council president to see it through. But on the same day, Jacques Delors, the European Commission president, told businessmen in Brussels: "If some countries are looking for alibis to delaying the treaty, it may well be that others will take an initiative. In the world as it is, we cannot delay." And a senior commission official said yesterday: "Kohl and Mitterrand agreed in principle that they would try to go ahead with a version of Maastricht even if Denmark or Britain doesn't ratify."

Mr Major and his fellow leaders hope that this Friday's special summit in Birmingham will resolve the Danish worries and reassure European sceptics at home, thus removing some of the obstacles to ratification of the Maastricht treaty by all 12 member states.

The prime minister and Douglas Hurd are continuing talks this week in an attempt to produce a statement of principle on "subsidiarity", designed to limit Brussels' interference in the affairs of member countries and are believed to have secured the support of Denmark and Germany. No firm decisions will be taken on Friday, but the gathering will pave the way for the Edinburgh summit in December when the government hopes a package acceptable to the Danes, new guidelines on subsidiarity and a mandate for talks on enlarging the Community will be agreed.

## MPs put Lamont career on trial

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NORMAN Lamont goes on trial for his political life today. MPs said yesterday as they prepared to grill the Chancellor over his handling of the sterling crisis and his attempts to fill the void left by the pound's withdrawal from the exchange-rate mechanism.

Conservative and opposition MPs on the 11-strong Treasury select committee signalled that Mr Lamont could expect few favours when he appears before them in a Commons committee room under the glare of the television lights. The 90-minute hearing is being broadcast live by the BBC this afternoon. After Mr Lamont's lacklustre performance at last week's Conservative conference in Brighton, his long-term chances of survival as Chancellor is again in doubt.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, is being tipped as a possible replacement. Yesterday, Mr MacGregor stepped into the policy maelstrom by delivering a bleak warning about the course of the public spending round. He said that there would have to be cuts in existing programmes if the government were to reach its public spending target of £244.5 billion next year. "We are going to have to be very tough on public sector pay and I think that's right," Mr MacGregor, whose £4.5 billion a year roads

programme is a prime target for savings, also said that some capital projects would have to be postponed to help the Treasury balance the books.

The transport secretary took care to support the Chancellor, saying he was doing a "good job in very difficult circumstances". People should "forget" speculation about his replacing Mr Lamont, Mr MacGregor said on BBC television's *On the Record*.

However, Conservative and Labour members of the cross-party committee, made up of six Tory MPs, four Labour and one Liberal Democrat, insisted that the Chancellor's position was not yet secure. Giles Radice, Labour MP for Durham North, said: "He is on trial because this is the biggest humiliation the government has suffered for many years... He'll no doubt try to be very smooth and double-tongued, which he is. I don't think the select committee will call for his resignation because of the Tory majority, but I think he should resign."

Conservative members of the committee also openly criticised Mr Lamont's performance and took issue with him over interest rates. They

Continued on page 2, col 7  
Letters, page 14  
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## Amsterdam grieves for El Al air crash victims



Cry of despair: a woman is comforted yesterday as Amsterdam mourned those killed, mainly immigrants, in last week's El Al plane crash

## Ozone hole spreads

THE hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica last week extended to inhabited land for the first time, covering the tip of South America and the Falklands, *The Times* has learned. More than 100,000 people were subject to a reduction of up to 50 per cent in protection against cancer-causing ultra-violet light.



Full details, page 4

## Bush pins hopes on TV debate

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WATCHED by more than 70 million American voters, President Bush, a long way behind in the opinion polls, last night used the first of three televised presidential debates in St Louis, Missouri, to try to turn the tables on Bill Clinton, his Democratic challenger. Also involved was Ross Perot, the independent, who opened the 90-minute debate.

Mr Bush's fortunes were not improved when *The Washington Post* came out in support of Mr Clinton, who seems destined for victory in the November election.

Standing at oak-coloured lecterns, the three candidates — Mr Clinton in the centre flanked by Mr Bush on his left and Mr Perot — were required to speak without reference to briefing materials. But they were allowed to make notes.

Mr Clinton entered the debate with a handicap: his hoarse voice, the result of intensive campaigning. But Mr Bush arrived in St Louis with an even more severe handicap — his standing in the opinion polls. He is nine points behind Mr Clinton's 44 per cent, with Mr Perot on 12 per cent. Mr Bush is also dogged by mounting evidence that his officials tried to cover up his administration's support for Iraq in the run-up to the Gulf war.

The justice department denied weekend reports that it had put pressure on CIA officers to suppress information on billion-dollar loans to Iraq by an Italian bank in Atlanta. The department insisted the CIA had withheld the information voluntarily. The re-emergence of the allegations came just as Mr Bush was trying to reverse his

fortunes — and Mr Clinton's — by using the St Louis debate to alter the public perception of the Democratic contender. Opinion polls in Texas, which Mr Bush must win to be re-elected, show Mr Bush and Mr Clinton neck and neck. The Bush campaign has tried to cut the ground from under Mr Clinton by focusing on his draft-dodging and anti-Vietnam stance, his activities as a student at Oxford, and a visit he made to Moscow, also during his student days.

The Post said America had lost direction and needed Mr Clinton's leadership. "The country is drifting and worn down," the paper said. "It badly needs to be re-energised and given new direction. Bill Clinton is the only candidate with a chance of leading the country to success."

Election debate, page 11

## Virgin pulls out of Dan Air rescue

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

TALKS between Richard Branson of Virgin and David James, chairman of Dan Air, collapsed at the weekend, putting the future of Britain's oldest airline in doubt.

Mr Branson had hoped to be involved in a rescue package involving a £10 million stake in a slimmed-down version of Dan Air and eventually renaming it Virgin European to fly to cities throughout Europe. But after a series of

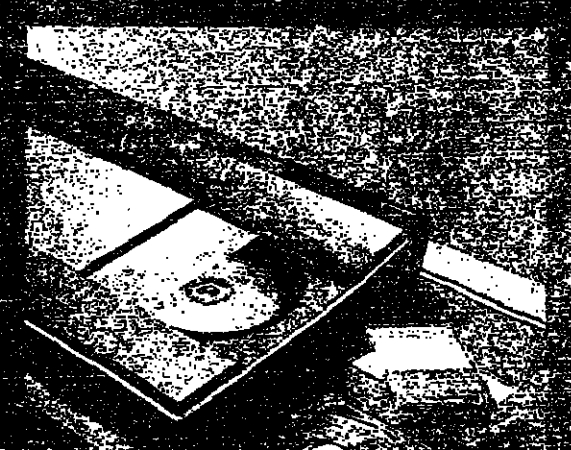
late-night meetings no agreement was reached and Mr Branson will announce formally today that he can no longer continue negotiations. In a last-ditch rescue attempt, Mr James has reopened discussions with British Airways, which earlier had walked away after examining Dan Air's books. But BA remains unconvinced that an investment would turn the airline around or that it would

be allowed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr James hopes to raise about £50 million to finance the airline through the winter and guarantee flights throughout the summer. Over the weekend he stepped up his attempts to raise the money from the City and other airlines, but time is running out and a decision on Dan Air's future will have to be taken this week.

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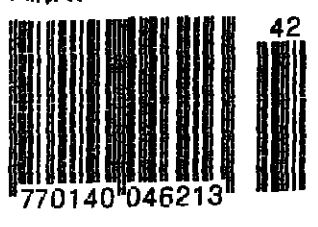


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**THE TIMES OVERSEAS**  
AUSTRALIA \$2.50, CANADA \$2.50, DENMARK 2.50, FINLAND 2.50, GERMANY 2.50, GREECE 2.50, HOLLAND 2.50, IRELAND 2.50, ITALY 2.50, JAPAN 2.50, NEW ZEALAND 2.50, NORWAY 2.50, POLAND 2.50, PORTUGAL 2.50, SPAIN 2.50, SWEDEN 2.50, SWITZERLAND 2.50, THAILAND 2.50, U.S.A. 2.50, U.K. 2.50.



## THE TIMES TODAY

The Times appears today in a new two-section format with increased space for news, sport and the arts.

On Mondays, sport will be at the front of Section 2 — starting today with eight pages offering unrivalled reporting on world matchplay golf and other weekend sport.

Section 1 will carry more news and analysis plus features (today on fashion and the Irish abortion debate), followed by opinion, court page and obituaries.

### SECTION 1

A major new development is The Times Today, a comprehensive back page digest of The Times which will signal clearly to busy readers where to find their essential reading.



### SECTION 2

Section 2 will include business, at least three pages of arts (today Philip Glass and Gurs N' Roses), and sport.

The widest team of columnists in British journalism — Bernard Levin, Matthew Parris, Simon Jenkins, Lynne Truss, Bryan Appleyard and Philip Howard — appear alongside the lead page.

The concise crossword and the daily chess puzzle are now published on the back page of Section 2. Leading article, page 15

## Cambridge tops league table of universities

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CAMBRIDGE University has pipped Oxford to top place in the first comprehensive league table of British universities, which is published in *The Times* today. Less than one tenth of a point out of 1,000 separates the ancient rivals.

Judged by 15 criteria, from entry standards and research income to the employment prospects of graduates, Imperial College, London, takes third place, with Edinburgh fourth. The established universities almost all finish above the former polytechnics. However, three universities founded in the 1960s make the top 20, including Warwick, in sixth place. Leeds

Metropolitan University — until recently Leeds Polytechnic — is the top-rated new university, in 57th place. The Committee of Directors of Polytechnics said the questions in the survey bore no relevance to higher education in general, or to the new universities in particular. A spokesman said: "Your league table is therefore totally worthless, and a waste of editorial space." The ranking, the centrepiece of *The Times Good University Guide*, was compiled by Tom Cannon, visiting professor of corporate responsibility at Manchester University.

Full survey, pages 35-39



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Police called in after school abuse claim

Police are investigating allegations of physical abuse at a children's home in Gwent, South Wales, where another residential centre has already been recommended for closure after a year-long independent enquiry. A member of staff at Mountain House, a residential school at Chepstow for children aged between eight and 14 with special educational needs, has been suspended as police and Gwent social services investigate the claims.

The Mountain House enquiry comes as one of Britain's largest child abuse investigations is being carried out into the running of residential council homes in North Wales. Lord Williams QC, chairman of the Bar Council, published a report last August calling for the closure of Ty Mawr children's home at Gylvern, near Abergavenny.

## Blind singer dies

Blind singer Lennie Peters of the duo Peters and Lee, who topped the hit parade with *Welcome Home* in 1971, has died of cancer aged 59. He lost the sight of his left eye when he was five and was blinded in his other eye at the age of 16 when youths threw a brick at him. This did not stop him playing the piano and singing and he teamed up with the singer and dancer Dianne Lee in 1971. Mr Peters died at his home in Enfield, north London, on Saturday. He leaves a widow, Sylvia, and a son and daughter.

## Girl's killer 'returned'

Police believe the killer of Nikki Allen, the seven-year-old schoolgirl attacked as she walked home from her grandparents' flat in Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, returned to the spot where her body was found in a derelict warehouse. Officers released a computer-enhanced picture yesterday showing Nikki as she looked when she disappeared on Wednesday evening. A man arrested on Saturday has been released but not ruled out of the investigation, police said.

## Monroe tops auction list

The largest group of Marilyn Monroe pictures thought to have been offered at auction were among photographs of Hollywood stars which made £63,180 at Bonhams in London. An original print for a nude calendar, taken when she was penniless and unknown, made the top price of £3,200. It was bought by Robert Smith, author of a recent Monroe book. More than 120 pictures were on offer, including shots taken just before her suicide in 1962.

## Nave to get new floor

The floor of the nave of Canterbury Cathedral, cracking under the strain of more than 200 years of tramping pilgrims, worshippers and tourists, is to be replaced. It will take about six months to refloor the nave, starting early next year, and cost an estimated £850,000. The present floor was laid shortly after 1787, two years before George Washington became president of the United States. The new nave will incorporate a modern underfloor heating system.

## Nationalists reject 'ham-fisted' recipe for Ireland

Proposals put before the latest Northern Ireland talks give priority to relations between Dublin and London rather than Dublin and Belfast

UNIONIST proposals for new cross-border institutions of government in Ireland met with a cool response from nationalists this weekend and were dismissed by one leading SDLP figure as little more than a "ham-fisted attempt to replace the Anglo-Irish agreement" (Edward Gorman writes).

Nationalist reaction to the Ulster Unionist Party proposals, which were tabled at the Northern Ireland talks last week and then leaked to the media at the weekend, indicates that there is still a long way to go before even heads of agreement can be reached by the end of this phase of the talks in mid-November.

The UUP document is a classic exposition of the integrationist thinking of Jim Molyneux, the party leader. Although the proposals form the basis of the party's submission for so-called cross-border institutions, the key element — a new Council of the British Isles — underpins Mr Molyneux's belief that a replacement of the agreement should not focus only on relations between Northern Ireland and the republic but on British-Irish affairs in general.

The document envisages a council made up of representatives of the two governments, and of any new elected assembly in Belfast. It could consider issues arising in Northern Ireland and also outside it, such as those concerning the Irish living on the mainland.

The document also describes an inter-Irish relations sub-committee of the council, a structure that would cover exclusively North-South issues in Ireland, such as the economy, the environment and social and cultural matters. There are also proposals for the Unionists to take part in a British-Irish parliamentary tier.

The SDLP does not like the drift of Unionist thinking in these areas because the party sees no opportunity in the institutions proposed to expand nationalist influence in the day-to-day running of Northern Ireland. The SDLP itself originally proposed a six-member executive commission to cover North-South relations, made up of three members from inside the province and one each appointed by London, Dublin and Brussels. One of the party's main objections to the Unionist proposals which, incidentally, contain nothing they did not expect, is that neither the council nor its sub-committee will have executive power. They will be limited to a purely consultative role of secondary importance to a new assembly in Belfast.

While Unionists continue to insist that the negotiations must be completed in all strands by mid-November, SDLP sources see only the possibility of broad heads of agreement being reached by then. They believe months of additional negotiations will be required.



Egging them on: Edwina Currie, who collected Parliament's quotable quotes

## Currie whips up one-liners to bring the House down

BY ALAN HAMILTON

SOMETHING terrible has happened to the art of parliamentary rudeness. Perhaps it is because she has gone, but the trade in rapier-sharp insults hurled across the Westminster floor appears to have died, judging by a new collection of political quotations gathered by Edwina Currie.

MP, who would probably still be a minister had she not once mentioned eggs.

It is hard to imagine Boris de Zeeuw being remembered for saying "I did have some friends at school but I don't know where they are now," or "The people who make quantum leaps only have backwards to go." They are, however, the choicest aphorisms Mrs Currie has been able to garner from the lips of John Major, along with: "There's a life after politics," and: "Nothing makes me more determined to do something than someone telling me I can't."

His predecessor fares better, with such sound bites as: "Home is the place you go to when you have nothing better to do," not to mention: "The cocks may crow but it's the hen that lays the egg" and: "I have always thought of myself as a politician who happens to be a woman."

Much sharper things were said about her, most of them by Denis (now Lord) Healey, author of the finest modern political quotation, concerning Sir Geoffrey Howe and a dead sheep. Others were: "Mrs Thatcher tells us she has given the French president a piece of her mind — not a gift I would receive with alacrity," and: "The great she-elephant — she has an impenetrably thick hide, she is liable to mount charges in all directions, and she is always thinking on the trot."

Barbara (now Lady) Castle was no slouch with the barb either. On the same subject: "If she would only occasionally come in with a smut on her nose, her hair dishevelled, looking as if she'd been wrestling with her soul, as I do." And on Mrs Thatcher becoming leader: "She is so clearly the best man among them."

In a compilation by Mrs Currie, eggs inevitably appear, usually thrown at prime ministers. Mr Major's response when so attacked during this year's election campaign: "Some people eat eggs, I wear them." Harold

Wilson, when similarly daunted: "If the Tories get in, in five years no one will be able to afford to buy an egg."

Old Tory bruisers make brief appearances. Lord Tebbit is included for: "Far better to keep your mouth shut and let everyone think you're stupid than to open it and leave no doubt." And Lord Ridley of Liddesdale on the fall of the last Conservative leader: "Normal humdrum government has been resumed."

Neil Kinnock achieves a number of entries, for such remarks as Britain having the four raw materials of oil, coal, gas and children, and for his observation, on the fall of his adversary, that those who organised the coup against her "must have had a conscience bypass." John Smith does not achieve a single entry; the charitable will say that it is too soon.

Among more historic aphorisms is one from Churchill that it is a good thing for an uneducated man to read books of quotations.

Three-Line Quips, by Edwina Currie MP, with Stephen Parker and Clare Whelan (Ashford, Buchan and Enright, £10.95)

## MacGregor takes a screen test for No 11

BY NICHOLAS WOOD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE shadow chancellor flitted into a television studio yesterday to talk about the pound. No, not Gordon Brown, but another Scot and one with a rather better chance of replacing Norman Lamont.

John MacGregor, a former merchant banker, looked embarrassed to find BBC television-billing him as the man most likely to be given the key to the Treasury strongroom. "That's an unfair question," Mr MacGregor protested when Jonathan Dimbleby asked him if he would like to be Chancellor.

But Mr MacGregor, like most of his cabinet colleagues, would very much like to be Chancellor. He just hides his ambition rather better than most of them. He also lacks the vanity and showmanship of many of his rivals.

Yesterday, if proof were needed that Mr MacGregor is the heir apparent should Mr Lamont fall, it was evident in the decision to field him for the cameras. When did a transport secretary last spend 30 minutes defending the minutiae of economic policy?

Mr MacGregor looks like a country doctor man who could persuade the most recalcitrant of patients to take the most unpalatable of medicines. But the case for him is one of substance as much as style.

He has enormous political experience, starting with his days as special assistant to Sir Alec Douglas-Home as prime minister in the early 1960s and then as head of Edward Heath's private office. He has been MP for South Norfolk for nearly 20 years and he is now in his fifth cabinet post since promotion to the top table in 1985. More importantly, he is seen by Mr Major and many senior Tories as a less divisive figure over Europe and the economy than his cabinet rivals.

But the case against Mr MacGregor was also on display yesterday when, he allowed himself to become bogged down in tedious exchanges over the impact on inflation of a falling pound.

His prescriptions seemed reassuring, but Mr Major might want a second opinion before putting him in charge of an ailing economy.



MacGregor: lacks the vanity of his rivals

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## Dutch lose patience over crash enquiry

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE black box flight recorder from the jet in the Amsterdam air disaster was flown from Britain to Washington yesterday as an international squabble broke out over the cause of the crash.

Experts based at Farnborough, Hampshire, found the recorder to be badly damaged and in several pieces. They said that they needed more time to examine the remaining readable parts of the recording.

Dutch politicians, however, are under growing pressure to find the cause of the accident quickly. They decided to transfer the black box to the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington, which began examining the device last night.

The Department of Transport in London said yesterday that a fault had developed in the recording equipment at Farnborough that would have delayed a proper analysis of the tape by several more days.

The Dutch authorities had decided they would not wait. With millions of pounds in compensation at stake if one manufacturer is found to be at fault, much depends on the contents of the black box recording. As both the aircraft's manufacturer, Boeing, and the engine maker, Pratt and Whitney, are American, the Dutch authorities have been under great political and commercial pressure to put the recording in American hands.

Indications so far suggest that the inner starboard engine of the 747 freighter broke away from its mountings, smashed into the wing and then dislodged the outer engine. This has been found in a lake near Amsterdam with the rearmost part of the inner engine close to it.

With no evidence of what caused the inner engine to break away from the wing, investigators are reluctant to hazard an opinion as to the precise cause of the accident. They believe that the most likely cause is that the bolts holding the inner engine to the wing snapped as the pilot accelerated away at 5,000ft above Amsterdam.

The investigators also remain concerned about the aircraft's total weight. Documents impounded by Dutch

investigators suggest that the aircraft was close to its maximum take-off weight, but the cargo appears not to have been weighed and doubts remain about how heavy the aircraft was on take-off.

Computer calculations have shown that at 5,000ft and with two engines missing it should still have been able to climb to safety, albeit very slowly. Only the black box can reveal what happened.

With the Israeli authorities also anxious to become involved in the investigation, the Dutch demanding instant answers, and the American manufacturers striving to limit their liability, the investigation is in danger of becoming tied up in a mass of international red tape and in-fighting.

## Secret EC treaty

Continued from page 1  
mism in Brussels that led to the secret draft for a break-away community, and those hoping to salvage the Maastricht deal will have taken little comfort from the Danish foreign minister's independent television interview with Brian Walden yesterday.

Uffe Elleman-Jensen, said that he would back a deal to put "flesh and blood" on the subsidiarity principle in Birmingham, but he emphasised that if the changes Denmark wanted were not agreed, he would not hold a second referendum — "and then there won't be a Maastricht treaty. I am not going to present the Danish voters with the same

question, perhaps dressed in some fancy clothes," he said.

Mr Elleman-Jensen added that he would be seeking clarification about the treaty's reference to a common defence policy and on the single European currency.

Ambitious federalist officials in Paris, Bonn and Brussels have been looking for a way of bypassing the Community's most reluctant states ever since the Danish referendum rejected the Maastricht treaty. The officials behind the secret treaty may, however, have underestimated the difficulties such a plan would face. Britain and Denmark are not the only states to value the national vetoes.

## MPs to grill Lamont

Continued from page 1  
accepted that if he failed to give convincing answers his position would be weakened. Treasury sources countered that such talk was "over dramatic" and pointed to the prime minister's backing for his Chancellor.

By setting a tight 1-4 per cent target for underlying inflation and emphasising this objective, rather than the need to bring a quick end to the recession, Mr Lamont has reduced the scope for dramatic reductions in interest rates. However, he may find room for a small cut soon.

Yesterday, his Tory critics on the committee highlighted their impatience with this

cautious stance. John Wans, the chairman, accused the Chancellor of "overkill" on inflation while Britain was a member of the ERM. Now the pound was floating it was time to relax the "touriquet around the throat of the economy" and reduce leading rates, he said on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*. He also warned the Chancellor against "putting the knife into capital spending".

Barry Legg, Tory MP for Milton Keynes South West, demanded "significant cuts" in interest rates.

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## Prisoners' families say Britain is 'too nice' to Iraq

■ The rapid release of an American from Iraq has revived complaints that the Foreign Office does not fight hard enough on behalf of Britons held abroad

By NICHOLAS WATT AND MARTIN FLETCHER

THE family of the British cyclist jailed for ten years in Baghdad said yesterday that the Foreign Office seemed to be doing nothing to secure his release, whereas an American was freed within days of being captured.

Iris Wainwright, whose son Michael was jailed for illegally entering Iraq, said it upset her to see Chad Hall, an American munitions expert, released. "The Americans must have pushed harder," she said. "It adds to our suffering to see him released — pleased as we are for him and his family — while nothing is happening with Michael. We have bitten our tongues to keep things quiet for diplomatic moves but we have got nothing for it."

Susan Priestley, Mr Wainwright's sister, said: "Our government doesn't seem to be doing anything... They keep telling me they're doing

everything they can, but when the Americans can get their man free in three days, there must be something not right."

Mr Wainwright's family was speaking after receiving his first letter since he was sentenced six weeks ago. Mr Wainwright, from Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire, wrote: "I feel well and hope it is the same for all the family. I know that a lot of people have heard about my story and I hope to receive help. I am waiting for news about you and the action the British government is taking."

Julie Ride, wife of Paul Ride, jailed for seven years in August, said yesterday that the Foreign Office had been too nice in its dealings with Iraq. "I think they try to be too diplomatic."

Mrs Ride, from Walthamstow, east London, said that the government must step up its efforts by pushing for



Flight to freedom: Chad Hall, left, being greeted in Kuwait City by Edward Ghenn, the US ambassador. Right, Julie Ride with a letter from her jailed husband, Paul



sansons against Iraq to be lifted. "One of the reasons why Iraq jailed Paul and Mr Wainwright was to use them as a lever to get food and medical supplies. In my husband's television interview last week, he said that ordinary Iraqis were starving. This is very unfair."

A Foreign Office spokesman said last night: "I would like to be more optimistic after the release of Mr Hall. But only events will say if the law

or fear is at play in the Iraqi hierarchy. We hope the Iraqis will realise that they will gain nothing by holding Mr Ride and Mr Wainwright. We don't give into blackmail."

Western diplomats indicated that Iraq's fear of renewed American military action inspired its rapid release of Mr Hall. The Bush administration had helped by refusing to make a big public issue of the capture, declining even to say officially that Mr Hall was

in Kuwait, not Iraq, when abducted.

President Saddam Hussein's fear of renewed military action was demonstrated last Thursday when his government requested the postponement of all United Nations weapons inspections in Iraq until after the US presidential election on November 3. The request was refused.

Mr Hall said yesterday that an Iraqi policeman had threatened to shoot him when

two of his colleagues were accused by two policemen of being on Iraqi territory. "One opened the door and, when he came back, he had a pistol," Mr Hall said. "He put the clip in the pistol and chambered in a round and said, 'Well, I have the authority to shoot you if I have to, to take you with me.'"

Mr Hall said he told them that he would go with them only if they let his colleagues go. The police colonel agreed

and Mr Hall drove into Iraq with the Iraqis in his car. "We went through Umm Qasr, past the UN Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission headquarters where we should have stopped. My feelings kind of went downhill."

After spending the night in Basra, he was driven to Baghdad on Friday. "I thought then I was in for a very long term in Iraq," his guards took him to a building where they blindfolded him and put

him in a cell. On Saturday morning, three men questioned him about his work and family.

Iraq seemed to be softening its position over Western prisoners when Muhammad Saeed al-Sahaf, the foreign minister, told Sweden during the weekend that Baghdad would reconsider the cases of three Swedes jailed for illegally entering the country. It made the same pledge about the Britons last week.

## Flat prices fall more than houses

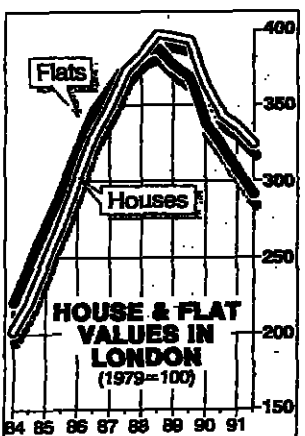
By RACHEL KELLY  
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

FLATS are falling faster in value than houses in the property slump, with the greatest price falls shown by two-bedroom, two-bathroom flats.

Whereas houses have gone down by 5.6 per cent over the past year, flats have fallen by 10 per cent, according to a report on prime London property worth more than £100,000 from the estate agents Savills.

Yolande Barnes, head of residential research at Savills, says there is an over-supply of flats in London, reflecting the rash of conversions of Victorian and Edwardian terraced houses in the late 1980s. "Flat prices became more overheated than the price of houses," she says.

The demand was especially high for two-bedroom, two-bathroom flats, but often such conversions were of poor quality, Ms Barnes says. "Badly done conversions are now among the most difficult kind of property to sell. In a recession, quality wins." The flat market has also been affected by the withdrawal of many younger buyers, who would traditionally have bought a flat rather than a house as a first or second-time buy.



## Scotland Yard fears rising wave of IRA bombing

■ The IRA's active service units are not short of explosives, as a surveillance operation in August revealed. So far, London has been lucky

STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA has greeted M15's new leading role in the fight against terrorism with seven bombs in four days on the streets of London. The Security Service, which took control of intelligence from Scotland Yard's special branch a week ago, fears these attacks could be merely an *hors d'oeuvre* for something larger.

In August, a surveillance operation including M15 teams uncovered what police yesterday admitted was enough material for 15 tons of explosive. The seizure indicated the scope of IRA ambitions and the latest attacks show active service units are not short of supplies. The bombs last week used just 7lb.

A group of two or three men or women equipped with simple bombs — comprised of a pound of explosive, a power pack and a one-hour timer of the sort used by motorists to remind them about parking limits — have taken London back to the days of the 1970s, when the IRA attacked nightly. The seven bombs were small but they could have killed passers-by or drivers. "London has been extraordinarily lucky in the past week," said one Yard source yesterday.

The task facing M15, aided by the Yard, the RUC and the Garda Siochana in the Irish republic is to make sure that luck holds in a game played

over months and years rather than by daily arrests.

Theories about the sudden upsurge include speculation that the IRA wanted to steal the thunder from the Conservative party conference or was tweaking Scotland Yard's nose in the final few weeks of Commander George Churchill-Coleman's role as head of the anti-terrorist branch. Saturday's bomb in a phone box outside Paddington Green, the police station where terrorist suspects are questioned, was seen as particularly cheeky.

Since the new campaign began with an early morning attack on an army postal depot in north London in August 1988, there have been between 90 and 100 incidents, resulting in the deaths of 16 servicemen, the murder of the leading Conservative MP Ian Gow, the mortaring of Downing Street, a shot policeman and three dead in the attack at the Baltic Exchange earlier this year. The tactics have ranged from assassination attempts by gunmen to incendiary devices, bombs left in vans or cars, special bombs attached to the cars of VIPs, and ones dumped on the street.

The mainland campaign has become an important pressure-point for the IRA because the Ulster campaign, whose statistics dwarf anything in Britain, is not achieving political results, and the campaign in Europe has stopped.

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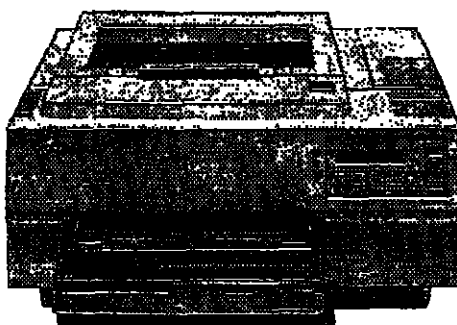
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<sup>2</sup>PCL Level 5 is a Registered Trademark of Hewlett Packard Company.

## BBC refuses to back down over news channel on long wave

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC yesterday refused to back down over plans to replace Radio 4 on long wave with a 24-hour news network despite more than 6,000 letters of protest from listeners, including the Prince of Wales.

Thousands of protesters are preparing to march on Broadcasting House in London on October 24, but the BBC hit back at its critics with research showing that at least 25 per cent of the population would listen regularly to a BBC Radio news network, ranking it above a national commercial pop station, independent local radio and Radio 3 as one of their five

preferred stations. Radio 4 listeners are angry that the station will be broadcast only on FM, claiming that reception is poor or non-existent in parts of the country.

Neil MacKinnon, a Winchester mathematics teacher who has organised the burgeoning Campaign to Save Radio 4 on Long Wave, claims that the BBC will lose two million listeners, plus 500,000 expatriates on the Continent.

Yesterday the corporation pledged that by early 1994, when it is due to launch the news network, 98.3 per cent of the population would be able to get Radio 4 on an

FM signal. Radio 4 now reaches about 96 per cent of Britain on FM.

Despite the construction of 50 new transmitters, thousands of people will still be unable to hear programmes such as *The Archers*, *Book at Bedtime*, *Farming Today* and *Desert Island Discs*.

Tony Hall, BBC director of news and current affairs, said the news network would expand the Radio 4 audience. "All of the key news programmes — *Today*, *The World at One*, *PM* and *The World Tonight* — will be broadcast on the long-wave news network," he said.



Health concerns grow as ultraviolet rays sweep across the tip of South America and Falkland Islands

# Hole in ozone layer expands to endanger humans for first time

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY  
ENVIRONMENT  
CORRESPONDENT

THE hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica, which this year is the earliest, biggest and deepest yet, last week covered inhabited land for the first time when it extended to the edge of South America and the Falkland Islands, *The Times* has learnt.

The World Meteorological Organisation in Geneva and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration both registered the northern tip of the hole, at present a vast ellipse nearly the size of North America, touching Tierra del Fuego last Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, and the Falkland Islands last Wednesday, before rotating eastwards out into the Atlantic.

People underneath the hole, from Argentinean and Chilean shepherds to British troops on the Falklands, were subject to a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the protection from the sun's harmful ultraviolet light, UVB, that the ozone layer in the stratosphere around the earth normally provides. Excessive UVB is known to cause skin cancer and eye cataracts and may affect the human immune system, as well as causing damage to plants and animals.

Although scientists said that the brevity of last week's episode meant it was unlikely that anyone had suffered harm, Rumen Bojkov, chief of the WMO's environmental programme, said it was "a significant and very unfortunate development for the world".

Dr Bojkov called on all countries to accelerate further the phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and other man-made chemicals respon-

**Evidence of an escalation in the destruction of the ozone layer over Antarctica has led to urgent calls to accelerate the phasing out of CFCs**

sible for destroying ozone, when they met to discuss the issue in Copenhagen next month.

He said yesterday: "Until now the ozone hole was in general affecting only penguins but it is now clear that in certain circumstances it can reach South America. Ozone destruction is also getting worse in the northern hemisphere, and because of the long lifetimes of CFCs in the atmosphere, it will continue to get worse for years to come, whatever we decide to do. It is essential for the world to act now — not later, now."

Jonathan Shanklin, one of the scientists of the British Antarctic Survey who revealed the existence of the ozone hole in 1985, said that populated areas had last week suffered the highest and potentially most harmful incidence of UVB ever recorded. "This was totally unexpected, and it should be a warning to us once again that we are playing with fire in altering the chemistry of the atmosphere," he said.

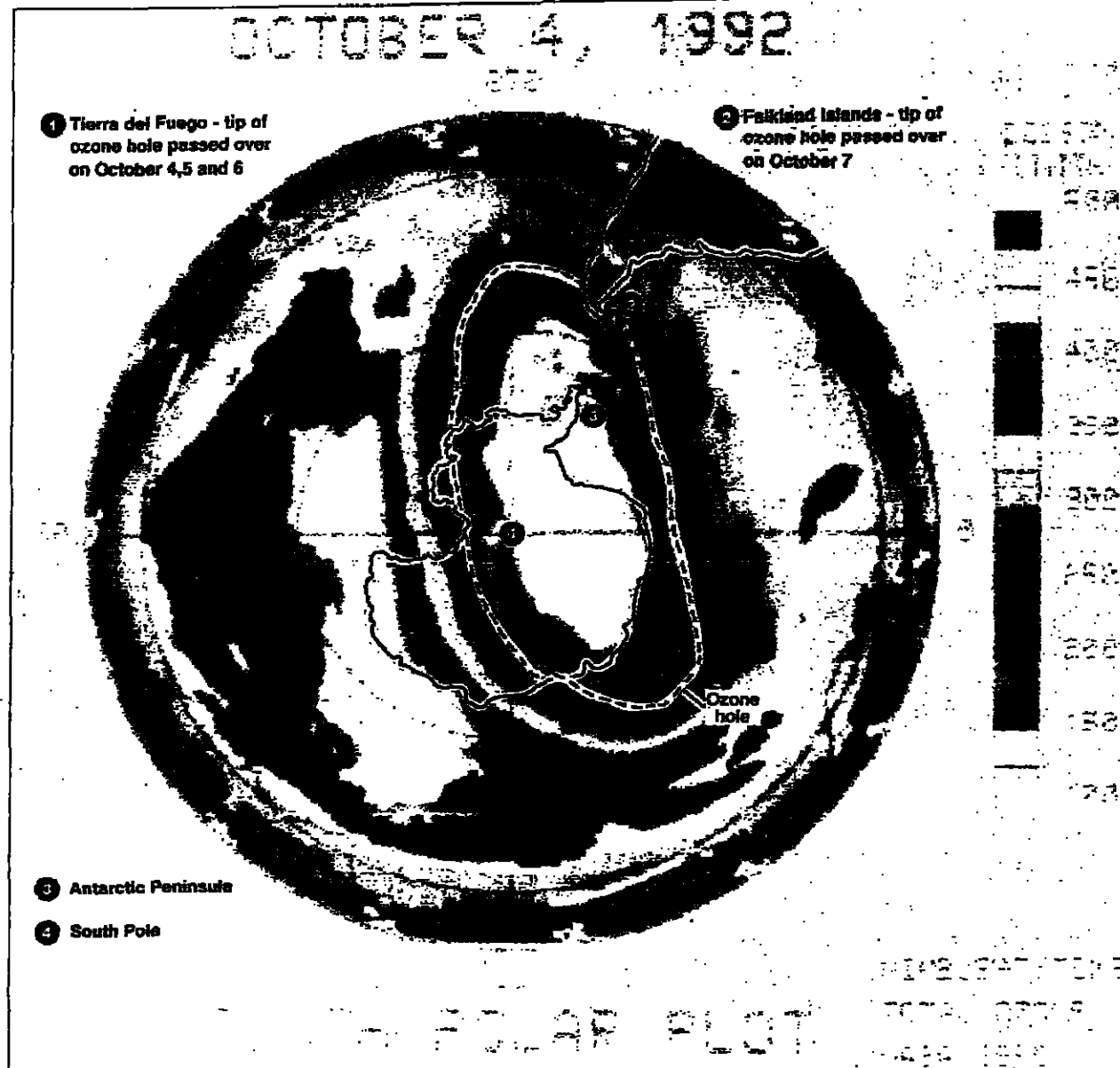
The ozone hole, an area in which the ozone layer has been severely depleted by up to 70 per cent of its normal thickness, suddenly appeared over Antarctica in the early 1980s; its principal cause was proved to be the chlorine contained in CFCs, the chemicals widely used in aerosols, refrigerators, foams and solvents. The hole appears in September and October, inside the polar vortex, the high-speed winds that circle Antarctica, when the sunlight

of the south polar spring causes the chlorine to react with ozone molecules and break them down.

Although the process of phasing-out CFCs world-wide was begun by the Montreal Protocol of 1987, and accelerated in London in 1990, ozone depletion has continued to get worse because the commonest CFCs remain in the atmosphere for 100 years or more after being released. In April, scientists announced that the ozone layer over Europe last winter had thinned by up to 18 per cent.

The hole over Antarctica has grown in the past three years and this year began to form earlier than before. By September 23 it covered 8.9 million square miles, nearly the size of the entire North American continent, a 15 per cent increase on 1991. Last week British Antarctic Survey scientists at the Halley and Faraday bases recorded their lowest readings of the ozone in the atmosphere directly above them.

The hole is amoeba-like, its edges constantly changing with the polar wind system and rotating in a clockwise direction, and last week it was elliptical in shape on October 4, its northern tip touched Tierra del Fuego, and remained there for two more days before moving eastwards to cover the Falklands. Both the Argentinean city of Ushuaia (population 100,000) and the Chilean city of Punta Arenas (population 100,000) were covered by the hole. Dr



Bojkov said. On the days in question the American Nimbus-7 satellite operated by NASA reported ozone readings of about 170 Dobson units over Tierra del Fuego, and 220 over the Falklands; the normal ozone reading is about 300. "These are by far the lowest ozone values ever observed at these inhabited latitudes," Dr Bojkov said.

Ministers from the 83 countries who are signatories to the Montreal Protocol, including Britain, met in Copenhagen on November 23 to discuss bringing forward the target for total CFC phase-out from its current date of 2000 to 1996 or possibly earlier.

□ Helping The Earth Begins at Home week starts on Saturday and aims to show householders how to cut carbon dioxide emissions and save money. The message will be that whenever we turn on the heating, switch on a light, cook a meal or run a washing machine, we use energy which costs money and may be damaging the planet.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, was due to launch the week in London today as part of the government's long-term campaign to persuade consumers to be less wasteful. A major TV advertising campaign will back up the move, but scores of events are taking place across the country.

Among many big commercial names and local authorities involved is Sainsbury's, whose Homebase superstores will be featuring the campaign logo on relevant products. National Westminster Bank is sending leaflets to 110,000 customers as part of a home-improvements loan promotion.

Durham district council is to launch a scheme in which householders can have their homes rated for energy efficiency. Worthing borough council is organising an exhibition and distributing posters and South Wales Electricity is running a series of roadshows.

## Britain in EC dock over bird protection

■ Britain may be a nation of bird-lovers. But is too little done to protect them?

By ROBIN YOUNG

BRITAIN faces prosecution by the European Commission for its failure to protect wild birds. The EC environment commissioner, Karel Van Miert, has started legal proceedings against the government for failing to set up enough nature reserves and for failing to regulate the shooting of species such as crows, magpies and pigeons.

The news is likely to anger country lovers. Britain, after all, has the largest wildlife conservation charity in Europe, which is devoted specifically to birds.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has almost a million members, many keenly aware that in the Mediterranean hunters flout both national and international laws, going out in spring and autumn to shoot passing migrants.

Their annual tally has been estimated at 900 million birds, from chaffinches to honey buzzards. One in seven of the birds that come to Britain as summer visitors is likely to end up in a Mediterranean cooking pot.

The European Commission itself has done more damage to birds than all the "European hunters" guns. In July the RSPB declared: "The common agricultural policy has been one of the most destructive influences on the wildlife of the Community."

Community projects including river diversions, fish farming and reclamation of wetlands have also taken their toll.

And yet, if Britain were taken to court by the commission (and in the present political climate that seems quite doubtful) might we not be found guilty? The truth is that bird-loving Britain has been sadly lagging on its commitments and we stand accused not only by the EC, but also by the RSPB.

Britain is required under an EC directive and a convention on wetlands to protect areas supporting internationally important bird populations. Sites qualify if at least one per cent of birds of north-west Europe's population of a particular species breed or winter there.

Of the 238 such sites identified in the United Kingdom, fewer than 50 have yet been designated as special protection areas. Hundreds of wildlife sites have been damaged or destroyed by development or pollution since the directive came into force in 1981.

It has been calculated that at the present rate of progress (sometimes as few as four new designated sites a year) it will be 2040 before Britain fulfils its commitment to protect the sites, by which time most will have been damaged beyond repair.

## Spending cuts put pressure on EFA

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MALCOLM Rifkind, the defence secretary, is determined to save the £22 billion European Fighter Aircraft from the scrapheap and is fighting Treasury pressure to cut his budget by £1 billion.

However, senior defence ministry sources admit that the Treasury is not convinced of the need to go ahead with the EFA, which has been developed by Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain.

Germany is to withdraw from the production phase and the other two partners will decide whether to stay in the programme at a ministerial meeting next month. If abandoned, by all three partners, Mr Rifkind will push for Britain to go it alone.

The minister hopes that a study on cutting the cost of the EFA, by industry experts from all four countries, will be enough to win the support of the Treasury. Big savings could come from dropping the plan to provide the aircraft with special hardening to withstand a nuclear blast.

But the crucial decision on the EFA's future has coincided with the demand for public spending cuts. If the Treasury wins the argument for a cut of £1 billion in the ministry's £24 billion budget, another prestigious equipment project may have to be sacrificed. One option might be to defer plans to upgrade the Challenger 1 tank to Challenger 2 specifications. Challenger 2 is the new generation tank being developed for the army by Vickers Defence Systems.

However, there will be fierce resistance to cancel any capability that is seen as a vital element of the government's defence strategy for the 1990s. Under its Options for Change defence policy, the government is to maintain a broad range of capabilities, enabling British forces to participate in high and low-intensity conflicts in and out of the Nato area.

Mr Rifkind accepts that the strategy remains valid. However, there are now strong voices in the Foreign Office calling for a change in emphasis towards lighter armed forces to cope with the perceived new demands for peacekeeping, with well-trained and mobile infantry as the prime requirement.

## Magistrates should lose power to jail, say reformers

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A CALL to remove the power of JPs to jail offenders is made today following a survey that shows considerable variations in the imposition of imprisonment by magistrates' courts in England and Wales.

The civil liberties organisation Liberty said it found that whether an offender ended up in prison could depend on whether a magistrate's court fell on one side or the other of an administrative boundary.

Jail is used twice as often in the police force area of Greater Manchester as it is in neighbouring Merseyside, while Norfolk's rate of imprisonment for adult male offenders is more than double that of neighbouring Lincolnshire.

When police force areas across the country are compared, male offenders were imprisoned in 1990 by courts in the Devon and Cornwall police force area two and a half times more often than in the Dyfed Powis area.

Liberty said: "On the face of it, therefore, a male adult offender is more than two and a half times more likely to be sent straight to prison by magistrates in the far south-west of England than he is in the far southwest of Wales."

"If law and order can be maintained in Shepton Mallet

### JAILING RATES

Men found guilty and sent straight to prison	%
Petty sessions division	
South Tameside	17.44
Charnwell	15.39
Hastings	15.30
Exeter	13.22
Plymouth	11.88
Torkey	8.42
Highbury Corner	8.37
Bow Street	8.30
Carlisle	8.11
Sunderland	8.11

without sending anyone to prison, why does South Tameside send almost one fifth of a similarly sized population of offenders to prison? "And why is it that for the one offender sent to prison in Houghton-le-Spring in 1990, South Tameside magistrates sent the equivalent of 24? Where is the justice in that?"

The differences cannot be explained by varying crime rates or by the volume of work before a court, Liberty says. Devon and Cornwall has a lower than average crime rate.

Even greater inconsistencies exist between petty sessions divisions, the survey found. In 1990 South Tameside bench in Manchester sent 17.44 per cent of male adult offenders straight to prison, compared with a national average of 4.96 per cent. At the bottom of the table, five benches, North Angelsey, Mold, Shepton Mallet, East Redford and

Eastleigh, sent none to jail. The report concludes that men jailed by benches such as South Tameside, Margate or Plymouth have grounds to appeal because of the comparative severity of their sentences.

John Wadham, Liberty's legal officer, said: "Such blatant examples of injustice lead us to conclude that the power of magistrates to imprison should be abolished."

There should at least be a judicial inquiry into the inequalities of sentencing between courts and extra training and guidance to benches that exceeded the national average by 50 per cent or more, he added.

*Unequal Before the Law — sentencing in magistrates' courts in England and Wales 1981-1990.* Liberty.

CLA crackdown on people who commit crimes while on bail could result in the unnecessary jailing of minor offenders, according to a report published today by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

It says that last year an average of 10,189 prisoners — 22 per cent of the prison population — were awaiting trial or sentence. About 60 per cent of them eventually received non-custodial community sentences or were acquitted.

## Call for change in selection of judges

By OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A RADICAL overhaul of the way judges are chosen is urged today on the basis of a survey that accuses the senior judiciary of being "a self-perpetuating elite". Recent appointees are still overwhelmingly male and from public school and Oxford or Cambridge, the survey found.

The analysis of the background of judges appointed in the past three years to the House of Lords, High Court and Court of Appeal shows that 77 per cent attended Oxford or Cambridge, 84 per cent went to private schools belonging to the Headmasters' Conference and only one was a woman. There has since been a second.

The analysis was carried out by Stephen Byers, Labour MP for Wallasey, who said: "These figures show the narrow social and educational background of our senior judges. It is hardly surprising that all too often they appear out of touch."

Lord Taylor of Gossforth, the Lord Chief Justice, had indicated that he could see no reason for changing the present selection method, Mr Byers said. "This analysis reveals that the present procedure, with its secretive consultation process involving existing members of the judiciary, simply means that we



Taylor: no reason to change present system

have a self-perpetuating elite which makes appointments in its own image."

Although the analysis found that judges were being appointed younger, with the average age of appointment to the High Court 53, in other respects the position was worse than when the last big study into the background of judges was carried out, in 1975, Mr Byers said. That study showed that 70 per cent had attended Oxbridge, compared with 77 per cent of the recent senior appointments.

He calls for a judicial appointments commission, as urged recently by Lord Williams of Mostyn, chairman of the Bar Council, with judicial vacancies advertised openly and applications invited.

## Dentists bite back at NHS

By ALISON ROBERTS

MORE dentists are refusing to take on new adult NHS patients as industrial action begun in July starts to show effect. The south of England is being particularly hard hit by a move towards privatisation, dentists' leaders say.

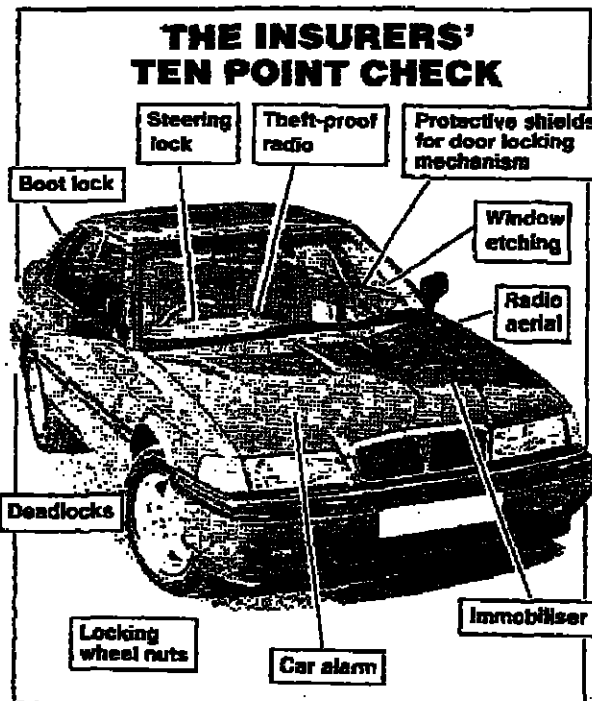
The first British Dental Association quarterly survey of dentists since the vote for action shows the vast majority are still treating NHS patients already on their lists, but almost 50 per cent are turning away new patients aged over 18. This compares with 20 per cent who said they would refuse to register new adults in the last quarter's survey.

More than 48 per cent of the 1,500 BDA members questioned are taking on new private patients compared to the 12 per cent who were doing so earlier in the year. The number who have completely privatised their practices remains low, however, at 3.5 per cent, and there is little change in acceptance policies for the under-18s and those adults who are exempt from charges.

In July the BDA advised its 16,000 members not to accept patients of any age following the results of a ballot on action in protest against the government's 7 per cent cut in NHS dental fees.

## Car insurers sound alarm on 'worthless' anti-theft devices

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT



A SECRET report for the insurance industry says that Britain's motorists are wasting millions of pounds a year on alarm systems that do not protect their cars.

The report, now being studied by the Home Office and motor manufacturers, says that even some of the most expensive alarm systems are unable to protect a car against a determined thief.

Insurance companies, losing £500 million a year on car crime, will use the report to help draw up a guide for consumers to expose equipment that is worthless and steer motorists towards the most effective alarms and cars with the best door locks and theft-proof radios.

The guide, which could be ready by the end of the year, could have a dramatic effect on the sales of alarms and immobilisers, estimated to be

worth £150 million annually, and speed up security improvements in cars on sale in Britain.

Insurance companies will also be able to judge potential discounts on premiums against the ratings on each car and security system in the guide, drawn up by scientists at the motor repair research centre at Thatcham, Berkshire, who are backed by Lloyd's and the Association of British Insurers (ABI).

The association ordered the nine-month enquiry as car crime continued to spiral and worries over the quality of security systems grew. Tony Baker, the ABI's public affairs manager, said last night: "The intention is to make equipment systematically testable so that we can end any confusion and help consumers to make a sensible choice. There is a lot of equipment on the market

but consumers have little guide to which systems are the most secure."

Car makers were given details of the report last week because their integral door and window locks and alarms will be subject to the scrutiny of the Thatcham scientists. Both car and alarm manufacturers know their systems will have to pass the test to have any credibility in the marketplace. Consumers will then have a direct comparison of the points scored by competing equipment.

Millions of pounds are spent by motorists on alarms to be fitted at home or by their own garage after buying their car, yet insurers say there is no way of knowing how well the car or the alarm could withstand an assault by a thief.

It is understood that the report warns that "add-on" systems may not only be

ineffective but could in some cases be dangerous to the operation of the car, cutting into electrical circuits.

The Thatcham team, which tested dozens of cars and alarm systems, has voiced particular concern about immobilisers, which shut down the engine after a break-in. They have warned that badly designed or fitted equipment could turn off the engine while the car was running — a potentially fatal fault — and are thought to want only systems that are designed specifically for each make and model of car, and recommended by the motor manufacturer, to be used.

Immobilisers have been selling in large numbers since police, the Home Office and insurers advised motorists that they were the best deterrent against car theft.

Norwich Union, the United

Kingdom's biggest motor insurer, insists that the Vecta immobiliser system be fitted to 45 makes of high-performance car before even considering offering cover, and offers discounts worth up to £300 a year on premiums for motorists whose cars have the system. However, Volkswagen has told its dealers not to fit Vecta and to use the company's own recommended system — which does not attract a Norwich Union discount.

Several car makers have expressed disquiet that discounts are given on premiums to motorists who fit one of approved alarm but not for fitting another that may be as good or better. The ABI's internal report goes a long way towards identifying the important areas of the car that need protection and setting out criteria determining the best alarm systems.



**1990.**  
**Our worst claims**  
**markets were**  
**1, Italy. 2, USA.**  
**3, Brazil. 4, France.**  
**5, Eire.**

**1991.**  
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**1992.**  
**Our worst claims**  
**markets are**  
**1, Italy. 2, France.**  
**3, Spain. 4, USA.**  
**5, Germany.**

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## Rathlin Islanders switch on to power after 30-year fight

BY EDWARD GORMAN

FROM the little hillock just behind Angela Green's farmhouse, where, during the Stone Age men made axe heads for export throughout Europe, you can just hear the whirring of the three German-made propellers on Kilpatrick mountain about half a mile away.

Angela and her three teenage children fall silent for a moment to listen and then disagree about what the propellers really sound like. Eamon suggests they are like the sea coming in on the shore. His twin sister Aileen compares them to a distant waterfall or a helicopter.

Angela and her family are still getting used to the sight of the wind-driven, electricity generating turbines and the scores of wooden pylons that now march across the heather-clad hills to and from their farm, symbols of perhaps the biggest single step forward for Rathlin Island in its modern history.

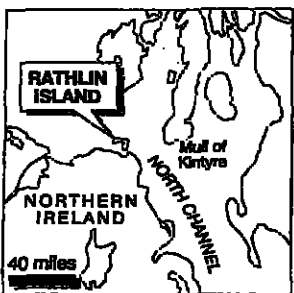
This week, just 206 years after the invention of something most of us have been using all our lives, Rathlin's 33 families are finally being switched on with power generated by the propellers on Kilpatrick. On Friday, there will be a grand opening when dignitaries from the EC, the Northern Ireland Office and Northern Ireland Electricity will be helicoptered out across the six miles of Rathlin Sound to take the credit for something for which the islanders have been campaigning for 30 years.

Angela is typically open and straightforward. "I think everybody will be having a good time that day and that includes getting drunk," she said. Like all her neighbours, fishermen and farmers scattered across this rugged piece of rock perched between Scotland's Mull of Kintyre and the spectacular North Antrim coast, she is happy to see the back of her oil-fired generator. It had to be crank-started like

■ This week, a remote corner of the United Kingdom will get mains electricity for the first time. Christmas has come early for the children of Rathlin Island

an old motorcar. Angela would use it only at night and it was never enough to drive more than the television and the lights. When it broke down, as it often did, the family was left without power. If Richard, her Tasmanian-born husband was away, Angela was dependent on neighbours to help her get it started. The generator was noisy and guzzled fuel, which had to be brought over by boat from Ballycastle on the Northern Ireland mainland.

In the past week, during which the house was connected up for the first time, all that has changed. The children compare it to Christmas, the



only time they can remember when the generator was left on all day as a treat. Now the tumble drier, which has been idle since the day it was bought, is in action, there are electric blankets on the beds, Angela can stay up late at night to read, a fridge-freezer to store meat and vegetables is on its way from Belfast and the electric pump in the central heating system is working.

"I'm just delighted it's here," Angela said. "It's taken a long time — that's a pity — but now we've got a brilliant system. If you wait long enough you get the best in the end," she added.

While she had always wanted the power, her only reserva-

tion had been about the visual impact of the wind-powered turbines on the hill overlooking the farm and the wooden pylons needed to deliver the power to the crofts and cottages around the island.

"I thought it was going to look worse," she said. "I thought it was going to look horrendous — but I look at them now and I've got quite used to them. They're set up pretty well, they look all right and best of all, I get electricity from them."

Rathlin, Northern Ireland's only inhabited island, has fallen a long way behind its counterparts in the republic, all of which got electricity before it. The delay here was mostly to do with the high cost of linking the island to the main grid and the difficulty of laying a cable across the channel separating the island from the mainland.

In the end, the EC made the breakthrough, providing 55 per cent of the £1.2 million needed to construct an autonomous wind-powered system on the island, backed up by diesel generating sets and battery storage for emergencies. It is a solution to supplying a remote island area that Northern Ireland Electricity believes could be replicated throughout the world.

Although the island is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic and support for Sinn Féin and the SDLP predominates, most people are ready to acknowledge the important contributions towards the scheme of Northern Ireland office ministers and the local MP — Ian Paisley.

"Well actually, he has worked solidly for Rathlin," said Mary Cecil, a 42-year-old mother of seven. "He's played a big part in any development you see here," she said.



Poor harvest: John Wilyman on his 650-acre farm that is struggling to pay its way against falling returns and rising costs

## Hill farmer who added to Major's woes

BY RONALD FAUX

■ Last month John Major took a day off from Maastricht and the currency crisis to listen to the troubles of a Welsh hill farmer. What he heard will not have lightened his burden

ANY politician prone to stress and traffic jams would find life at Melai farm near Llangernyw, Cwtyd, close to idyllic. The farm house lies in a quiet valley beneath gently rounded hills grazed by the Melai flock.

It is where John Wilyman's family has lived and farmed for 42 years and where John Major arrived to learn about the plight of the upland farmer. He left with a polite flea in the ear, aware that the Wilymans' lives are not of undisturbed contentment.

Beyond the neat pens, spruce kept yards, the 650-acre farm is, like most others, bumping insecurely along the furrow of recession, barely able to make ends meet. "Every cost on the farm has risen, yet we have never sold lamb so cheaply," Mr Wilyman said. "An animal weighing, say, 40kg, which then would have fetched £42, now fetches only £30 and

another substantial drop is on the way."

About 40 per cent of Melai's income is in subsidy of one form or another. The power of the supermarkets has dictated a downward trend in returns to the livestock farmer, and insurance costs have risen almost 15 per

cent in a year. "What is urgently needed is a clear lead about future policy," he said.

"We have a host of hazy rules and regulations that are pending and no definite idea about what their fine print contains or when they will be enforced. This makes it impossible to plan ahead."

The common agricultural policy and the general agreement on tariffs and trade are feared by many hill farmers. Changes in the payment of lamb subsidies, from every three weeks to three times a year, have added to their cash-flow difficulties. "It means we are very dependent

on government paying out when payment is due. At the moment they don't. Payments approved in July did not arrive until September."

The Melai herd is kept roughly half for fattening and half for sale as stores. Unlike a dairy farm, which has a monthly milk quota cheque, the Wilymans must wait for the autumn sheep and cattle sales for their returns, which have failed to keep pace with inflation.

There was a time when a farmer could comfort himself with the thought of how much the land around him was worth, but a neighbouring farm with a sound house surrounded by 100 acres failed to raise a single genuine bid when it was put on the market recently for £150,000.

Mr Wilyman believes in Europe and in being a member of the European Community. He would simply like some sign that Britain and the Community believe in him.

## Dying breed lives on subsidy

HILL farming is a form of agriculture that is slowly dying and could not survive without heavy subsidy (Michael Hornsby writes).

Some 90 per cent of Scotland, 80 per cent of Wales, 60 per cent of Northern Ireland and 18 per cent of England are classified as a "less favoured area", where a combination of altitude, poor soil and rough terrain restricts agriculture to the breeding and rearing of cattle or sheep. About 66,000 farmers in these

areas will receive more than £140 million in "hill livestock compensatory allowances" this year. In addition, they qualify for the subsidies paid to all livestock producers under the common agricultural policy.

The argument for maintaining hill farmers is not straightforward. Sheep have overgrazed the heather moorland and now the government is planning to increase grants to farmers who agree to reduce their stocking densities.



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There's gold in them thar frills.

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There are eight categories, from the budget conscious "More Dash than Cash", to the highly prestigious Designer of the Year Award.

The ceremony will take place at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, in the presence of HRH The Duchess of Kent.

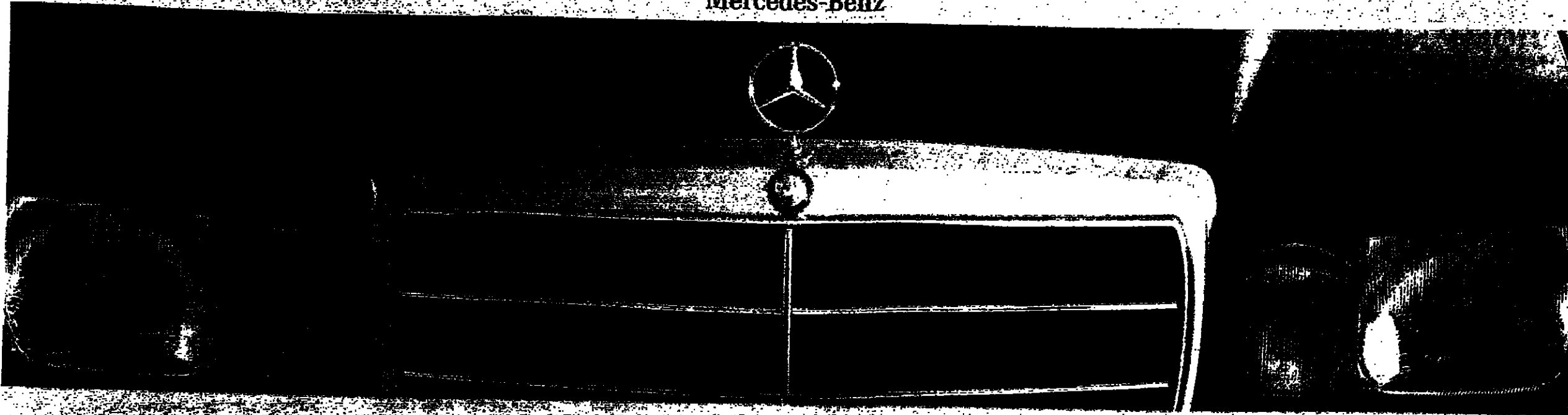
And tomorrow the highlights are scheduled to be shown on BBC-1 at 8.00pm, in a half-hour special.

The winners won't just be ruche, they'll be famous.





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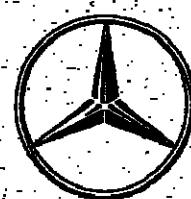
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British Rail's glass marvel fails to hide the transparent failures of Europe's tunnel vision

## BR offers glimpse of a new era in rail travel

■ Celebrations marking completion of the roof at Waterloo International fail to disguise the fact that every other aspect of the Channel tunnel project is late

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN takes a step closer to the European mainland today when British Rail celebrates the completion of the steel and glass canopy over Waterloo International station, the first new rail terminus to be built in London since the Victorian era.

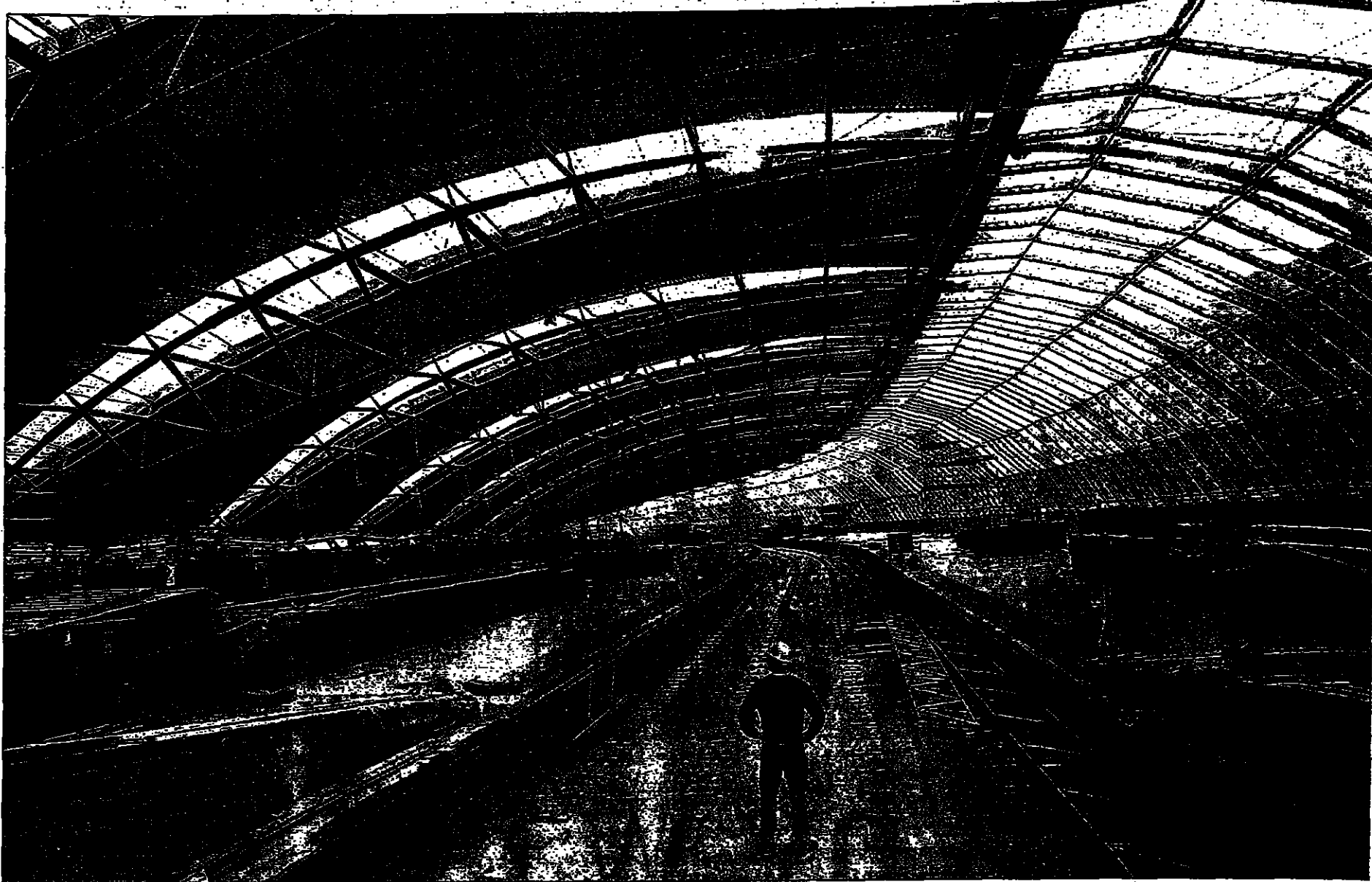
The final pane of glass will be lowered into the station roof by Sir Bob Reid, the BR chairman, and Roger Freeman, the transport minister, in a ceremony designed to show that Britain has not fallen too far behind France in its preparations for the opening of the Channel tunnel at the end of 1993.

The £130 million station, which includes five new quarter-mile-long platforms, separate arrival and departure areas, and extensive retail facilities, is not expected to be completed until May, one month before the new international rail services were originally to begin. But while BR is on target and on budget for completing Waterloo International on time, both the Channel tunnel and the high-tech rolling stock needed to provide the new fast passenger services between London, Paris and Brussels

have fallen way behind schedule. Waterloo is perhaps the most visible element of phase one of BR's preparations for the tunnel — a £1.4 billion package of measures including the new station, the modernisation of the existing mainline between Folkestone and Waterloo and BR's share of the cost of the new fleet of trains.

In contrast to France, Britain never had the option of building a new high-speed rail link in time for the opening of the tunnel because of the greater cost and complexity of such a scheme this side of the Channel. Consequently, in order to have any service at all, BR has been forced to focus its efforts on upgrading existing facilities.

Mainline services were due to have started on June 15, 1993. Because of successive delays in building the new rolling stock, however, British, French and Belgian railways do not now expect to have the full fleet of 31 supertrains until the summer of 1994. Much of the delay is attributable to the complexity of building trains capable of running on three different networks. GEC-Alsthom, the



Line management: the platforms now arriving at Waterloo International are on schedule and on budget, but the high-tech trains they await are lagging behind

Anglo-French manufacturer which is building the £500 million fleet, admits that the task has proved far more difficult than anticipated.

The supertrain is a modified version of the French *Train à Grande Vitesse*, which came into service on the new Atlantic line between Paris and Le Mans in 1989. Because Britain's loading gauge is considerably

smaller than on the Continent, the new international passenger services are running, demand is expected to outstrip supply well before the end of the decade. Public attention can then be expected to shift towards phase two of Britain's preparations for the Channel tunnel, the seemingly interminable saga of the proposed high-speed rail link, which promises to cut 30 minutes off the journey time

between Folkestone and London. Following the government's decision last October to reject BR's plans for a southern approach for the link, BR engineers have been finalising details of a new easterly approach into King's Cross station via Stratford in east London.

In December, ministers will receive from BR a basic route plan, with a series of

add-on options, such as tunnels to limit the link's impact on the environment, and extra stations designed to help regenerate the East Thames corridor, each of which will increase the cost of the multi-billion-pound project.

It will then be for the government to decide whether Britain is to be provided with a high-quality rail link capable of meeting Britain's

rail needs for the 21st century, or whether to continue with the current "make-do-and-mend" approach to the provision of transport infrastructure. Ministers have already made clear their determination to see the rail link built with private sector capital, while private sector interests have said that there will be no link without public sector backing.

## Fischer just three wins away from chess title

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

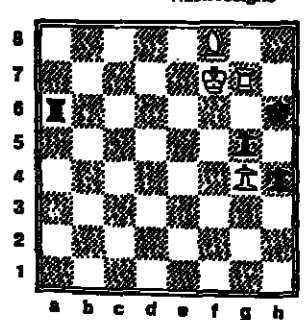
BOBBY Fischer, the American chess genius who has emerged from a 20-year hibernation, has surged forwards in his world record \$5 million (£2.95 million) match in Belgrade against his old foe Boris Spassky.

Fischer (playing white) won game 17 on Saturday night after 58 moves and 6½ hours' play. Spassky resigned when a bishop down in an endgame, with no hope of escape.

Fischer now has seven wins to Spassky's three, with seven draws. Fischer needs just three more wins to clinch the match. Fischer chose a seemingly quiet line against Spassky's now habitual Sicilian defence, but the American maintained persistent pressure with his pair of powerful bishops on an open board. On the twenty-fourth move, Spassky missed a chance to complicate matters and thereafter Fischer treated the 2,000-strong audience to a filigree display of endgame artistry. Some experts in Belgrade claimed Spassky could draw, but with a dramatic king march, Fischer delivered the coup de grace.

The eighteenth game was to be played yesterday.

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	c5	30 Bb4	Rd7
2 Nc3	Nc6	31 Bb5	Kf7
3 Ng5	g6	32 Kf2	Rd8
4 g3	g5	33 Kf3	Rg6
5 e5	exd5	34 Kd4	h5
6 Bg2	c4	35 Bxd4	Rf7+
7 Nd5	Nb6	36 Kf3	h4
8 Nc3	Nd5	37 Bc5	Rd1
9 Nxd5	Bd6	38 Rxd7	Rd5
10 Kd1	g4	39 Bf8	Rd5
11 Bc3	Bd6	40 Bb5	Rd5
12 Nf4	Bf5	41 Rf7	Nb6
13 Bf3	Rf5	42 Rb5	Nd5
14 Bb2	Rd1	43 B4	Rd1
15 Rf1	Rd1+	44 B5	Rb1
16 Qd1	Qd7	45 Rb8	Rb5
17 Qd1	Rd1	46 Kd4	Rd5
18 Rf1	h4	47 Kd4	Nd5+
19 Bb4	Bd6	48 Kd4	Rd5+
20 Qb3	Nd5	49 Qb3	Rd5
21 Qb7	Nd5	50 Kd5	Rd5
22 Rf1	Qd7	51 Kd5	Rd5
23 Bb7	Nd5	52 Kd5	Rd5
24 Bb4	Bd6	53 Rg7	Rd5
25 Bb2	Bd6	54 Rg7	Rd5
26 Bb3	Nd5	55 Rg7	Rd5
27 Rf2	Nd5	56 Rg7	Rd5
28 Rf5	Rd7	57 Kf7	Rd5
29 Rf5	Rd7	58 Kf7	Rd5



The final position

## Churches cry blasphemy at image of Christ

By ALAN HAMILTON

THEY have sharpened their tongues like a serpent, adders' poison is under their lips. The satirical puppet show *Spitting Image* last night cast its last clout of decorum by portraying Jesus Christ in later, as a layabout hippie helping the Almighty to find his way through the Yellow Pages. Christian churches have taken understandable offence.

The Church of England is considering a complaint to the Broadcasting Standards Council and the Independent Television Commission for what it regards as a breach of the commission's code of taste and decency, which requires religion to be treated responsibly on television. The Rev Eric Shegog, the church's director of communications, described the portrayal as highly irresponsible and a cheap attempt to get audiences.

The Rt Rev Gordon McMillan, Bishop of Down and Dromore in the Church of Ireland, said that the sketch was a descent into bad taste, verging on blasphemy. "To present my Lord and Saviour in this way I would find deeply offensive, as I believe would many people," he said.

A spokeswoman for Cardinal Basil Hume, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, said that many Christians would be offended by what was a poor example of the image of Jesus for non-Christians to see.

The short sketch, said have been toned down from an

original idea in which God, dismayed by his son's loose-end idleness, promises him a return to earth to keep him occupied. Depicted God searching high and low in Heaven for a Bible, and being advised by his son to let his fingers do the walking, in the manner of J R Hartley seeking a copy of *Fly Fishing*.

Other icons once thought inviolable, including God and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, have slipped into the weekly show in all their grotesque caricature and now excite little comment, in spite of the Almighty being presumably higher in the religious canon than the son of man.

Accusations of ineptitude, bad taste and sacrilege were, however, directed at a recent *Spitting Image* tableau which depicted the last days of a recent government in the manner of Leonardo, with members of the cabinet as disciples and Baroness Thatcher in the role of the son who was about to be betrayed.

Other satirists have incurred church displeasure when pushing at the boundaries of decency. The *Monty Python* team were vilified for the vaguely biblical mock-epic *The Life of Brian*, but they always asserted that Brian was a different messiah altogether. Part of the anger at last night's portrayal may have been that the puppet employed was that of Mike Rutherford, a member of the rock group Genesis, transferred to its new role by the addition of a white robe.



From Genesis to a revelation: the rubber Jesus

Repentance was not in evidence among the creators yesterday. Bill Dare, producer of *Spitting Image*, even predicted a second coming if the character proved popular and was not too controversial. Most people who were truly religious took such things in their stride, he said.

Central Television, which transmits the programme, said in a statement: "As with all *Spitting Image* material, this short item has been checked at the highest level for taste and legality and consid-

ered suitable for transmission. *Spitting Image* is renowned for being controversial and viewers must make up their own minds."

At exactly how high a level advice was sought is not clear. The very highest level of advice, from the subject himself, is reported by St Luke: "Whoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven." They may, after all, be in the clear.

## Women are 'more pragmatic' than men in business

By KATE ALDERSON

BUSINESSWOMEN are more realistic and pragmatic than men, employ fewer people and are more likely to achieve their first-year financial forecast.

According to a survey of more than 1,000 men and women who have recently started up in business, women are cautious when predicting the success of their company, and as a result are less inclined to overspend and over-borrow.

NOP Corporate and Financial studied new businesses for two years and found that women foresee an average turnover of £50,000 per annum in their first year, while men expect to make £110,000. Allison Hewlett, a director at NOP, said: "Historically women are more cautious and realistic."

The research shows that they take a more prudent approach to business. Their estimates tend to be more conservative right from the start."

Men who had originally expected an average first year turnover of £130,000 only achieved £120,000 in their first 18 months of trading. Women who had predicted an average turnover of £45,000 in their first year managed £75,000 after 18 months.

Liz Viter, a partner in Viter-Hale Partnerships, a London communications consultancy, agrees with the survey: "Our predictions have been very realistic. We priced our services realistically and have been able to stick to all our cash flow forecasting. We pro-

jected a turnover of £160,000 in our first year, and so far we have easily hit that target."

"I think women tend to be more pragmatic. We opted for a small start-up loan, so less debt. We don't go for the big status cars and we share an office. My partner is a woman and I think we are good at communicating — men in business are reluctant to talk about things and often let problems build up without confronting them."

Zora Hussain started running the Paramount hotel in Nottingham 10 months ago, and because of the recession has had to change her financial forecast many times.

"I think women tend to make more conservative predictions in business because they are more afraid of failure, of being ridiculed," she said.

"Men ridicule women very quickly if they don't succeed and say 'what do you expect you try to do a man's job?' I think women are better with money. We have to look after a house, a home, children and we have to be organised. In a male-dominated world we have to work harder."

Women in England and Wales set up 28 per cent of new businesses, according to the survey. For both sexes, retail business is the most popular, chosen by 30 per cent of women and 21 per cent of men. The second most popular sectors for start-ups were property, finance and professional services, which accounted for 17 per cent of all new businesses.

## Boy, 7, is snatched by lorry driver

By KATE ALDERSON

A lorry driver abducted a seven-year-old boy and beat and threatened him before flinging him from the cab of his moving cement mixer. The attack happened on Friday but details were released yesterday because it took two days for police to coax information from the child.

Sean Barr had been playing near his home in west Belfast when he was grabbed and forced into the cement mixer. He was punched in the face, threatened with a knife and told he would be mutilated before being killed.

When he was pushed out of the cab he tried to hold on to the door, but suffered severe cuts and bruises when he fell to the road.

## Dinghy death

A man died when two people were rescued when their dinghy capsized in the Medway at Queenborough, Kent, early yesterday morning. They were rowing to a yacht anchored in the estuary.

## Ravers held

Police arrested 53 people after a youth club was broken into and an illegal rave party was held at Huyton, near Liverpool, early yesterday. Officers said the club suffered £20,000 damage and the arrested people had been charged with public order and criminal damage offences.

## JCB cash raid

Thieves using a JCB digger stole a cash dispenser containing £36,000 from the Abbey National office in Hempstead, Gillingham, Kent, early yesterday morning. The raid was the second this year.

## Goat stranded

Animal lovers are hoping to rescue a goat that fell from cliffs on Lundy in the Bristol Channel and swam to a tiny nearby island. While the 120lb-high rocky outcrop contains enough food for it to survive, wildlife experts believe the animal could perish in the winter gales.

## Bond winners

Winners in the weekly premium bond prize draw are: £100,000, 21 KF150582 (winner lives in Leeds, value of holding £460); £50,000, 12LB900352 (Buckinghamshire, £121); £25,000, 26AK984550, (West Sussex, £2,500).

## Young black businessmen form old boy networks

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

EVERYONE has heard of the old boy network. Now young black businessmen are forming their own networking organisations where they exchange corporate calling cards, listen to each other's difficulties, plot new ventures and hold parties.

The growth of organisations devoted to celebrating Afro-Caribbean business success and checking out new opportunities follows the emergence of a generation of blacks who have been educated in Britain and who are employed in the private rather than the public sector.

■ The emergence of a generation of British-educated blacks working in the private sector has brought organisations that promote Afro-Caribbean business

Mike McLeod, research fellow with Warwick University's Centre for Ethnic Studies, said: "There is a group of young second generation black Britons, educated and confident, who are interested in using networking organisations to get to know other black people employed in companies."

Societies for black social workers, probation officers and secondary school teach-

ers have existed for a long time. The Asian community, many of whom arrived in Britain unable to speak English, have maintained strong networks based on family links. But until recently the black community has gone in for little commercially based networking.

David Wint-Flint, a former insurance broker who has set up the African Caribbean Directors' Institute, said the

organisations have a role to play in improving the standards of black businesses. In spite of obstacles facing black businessmen, including prejudice and difficulties in obtaining finance from banks, he reserves some of his harshest criticism for the black community itself.

"We have to get our own house in order first," he said. "We have to make sure we come across as professional. I don't want to do business with someone who is unprofessional, so why should the white community?"

His message was greeted with murmurs of approval by about a hundred young black people at a seminar

organised by Renaissance, a marketing consultancy. It runs quarterly meetings at which young buppies — black yuppies — discuss their difficulties and then party late into the night. Its meetings have included discussions on international networking modelled on the American experience and ways to overcome barriers in big companies.

Mr Wint-Flint, brought up on the Broadwater Farm estate in north London but now living in Enfield, is one of a number of black professionals anxious to counter the stereotype that Afro-Caribbeans make bad businessmen.

David Brune, an estate

agent in Leytonstone, east London, said: "Black people are traditionally suspicious of their own businessmen. They don't think they can give a service, but once they can see we are professional they give us their support."

Like Mr Wint-Flint, he offers opportunities to other black businessmen including architects, accountants, solicitors and builders. Mr Brune, born in Dominica but educated in Britain, said: "If black businessmen have an opportunity to give work to other black people then they should do so. It is not racist, it is helping to give confidence and support to the black community."

Comm  
Serbian  
Bosnia  
defiance

Fleeing family  
more to fight



# Communism and conflict dominate Georgian election



Shevardnadze: seen as bringing prosperity

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN TBILISI

GEORGIA went to the polls yesterday in elections for its parliament and the post of *de facto* president, with the exercise in fledgling democracy overshadowed by the escalation of fighting in the separatist region of Abkhazia.

The voting bore the hallmarks of the communist past and a conflict-dominated present, united in the figure of Eduard Shevardnadze, the former Soviet foreign minister and sole candidate for the post of parliamentary chairman. Mr Shevardnadze says the republic must be steered away from an all-out war with its breakaway regions. He is likely to achieve the 30 per cent needed to gain the post which carries presidential powers in all but name. After the debate of Zviad

Gamsakhurdia, the ousted president who became a dictator after being voted into power last spring, Georgia is wary of according anyone the title of president.

The breakaway areas of Abkhazia, South Ossetia and Mr Gamsakhurdia's stronghold in western Georgia are boycotting the vote. Fearing an increase in armed attacks, the government in Tbilisi took the precautionary step of not entirely democratic step of imprisoning 50 "potential terrorists" before the election. Civilians are fleeing the Abkhaz capital, Sukhumi, which has been swept by rumours of an imminent attack by separatist forces who have stepped up shelling on the outskirts of the city. Vladislav Ardzimba, the

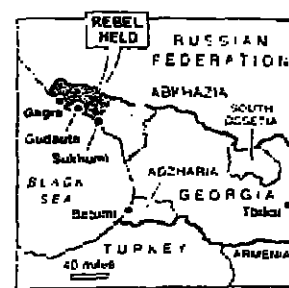
■ Eduard Shevardnadze is expected to emerge as the legitimate leader of Georgia after elections yesterday. But the former Soviet foreign minister will have to deal with war on three borders, the meddling of hardline elements in the Russian army, and shortages, if he is to establish democracy.

rebel leader, warned yesterday that fighting in the region, which has claimed several hundred lives, would continue until it was allowed to secede from Georgia and that peace talks between Mr Shevardnadze and President Yeltsin scheduled for tomorrow were doomed to failure. Extra troops have been sent from Tbilisi to defend Sukhumi, but Georgian forces, ill-trained and equipped, look unlikely to be able to fend off forays by the rebels. They have access to Russian hardware, mercenaries, Cossacks and other mountain people

with the once prosperous city gripped by shortages and panic-buying. Once famed for its lavish cuisine, Georgia today is in straitened circumstances. The streets are deserted at night with an unofficial curfew in force.

The sale of alcohol was banned at the weekend, to the disappointment of Georgian men, who appear to live mainly on sweet Russian champagne and local cognac. "Our people must be sober enough to realise the importance of their vote," explained Mr Shevardnadze.

In a country where clan loyalties and latent nationalism have long dominated politics, ideological rules were cheerfully ignored in this election. In spite of the general loathing of communism, Mr Shevardnadze, former first secretary of the Georgian



Communist party, and the Peace bloc of parties, which calls itself "an alliance of former communists who have now abandoned their Marxist-Leninist ideology", are expected to emerge triumphant.

Outside the central polling station, most of the voters from Kalashnikov-wielding soldiers in sunglasses to *babushkas* in black skirts and shawls, put their faith in Mr Shevardnadze. "It's true that

he was a communist," said one grandmother, "but he was always a Georgian first. He will stop the war and bring us prosperity and the respect of the world."

The electorate has a bewildering choice of parties, all boasting their attachment to the Georgian tradition. Many claim that Mr Gamsakhurdia — now in exile in the Chechen region — was once a member and hasten to add that they expelled him, thus hoping to please his residual supporters and opponents alike.

Family ties still dominate with clans like the Khachidze remaining ubiquitous. Georgi is the representative in Abkhazia and his brother is a deputy. Parliamentary feuds are often settled in a burst of gunfire on the streets — post-communist democracy, Georgian style.

## Serbian jets attack Bosnia towns in defiance of UN ban

BY ADAM LEBOR  
IN ZAGREB,  
JAMES BONE AND  
MICHAEL EVANS

SERBIAN aircraft were reported to have bombed towns in northeastern Bosnia-Herzegovina again yesterday in defiance of a United Nations ban on military flights. Croatian radio claimed that in ten air attacks on Gradacac on Saturday 19 people were killed and 34 injured.

Although a Serb military spokesman denied the claim, the UN Security Council is expected to consider tough action, as promised when the "no-fly" ban was imposed. But diplomats said no member had sought a new resolution authorising the use of air power to shoot down Serb planes.

As some of the fiercest fighting of the war continued across the northeastern corner of the country, the first British troops bound for Bosnia prepared to fly out this week. They are the first element of an advance party of 300 to 400 troops who will be responsible for acquiring and constructing accommodation for the 2,000-man battle group. If

■ As British combat troops prepared to join the UN forces in Bosnia, some of the fiercest fighting of the civil war raged across the country. Serb aircraft bombed Muslim targets in defiance of the UN ban on flying while their ground troops continued their drive to create a land corridor in the north

the preparation work goes ahead smoothly, the deployment of the main body of troops could be accelerated.

The battles in the north have reinforced the government's decision to scrap the convoy route proposed by the UN, which would have channelled food to Tuzla and Doboj from the northeast. Now, the new route will head from the port of Split in the southwest, but defence sources acknowledge that it may be impossible to reach Tuzla, a Muslim-controlled enclave, because of Serb artillery fire.

The British soldiers from the 1st Battalion The Cheshire Regiment, due to be operational in Bosnia next month, may be forced to distribute the food to towns and villages south of the designated UN relief area. "If it's not safe to go to Tuzla, we'll have to distribute the food elsewhere," a source said.

Although the fighting in the

north will not affect British planning, there is concern that any move by the UN to enforce a "no-fly" zone to stop Serbian aircraft from bombing civilians could create new dangers for the British troops. The Serbs, it is feared, might seek revenge by targeting the UN troop reinforcements.

Serbian forces continued yesterday with their drive to create a land corridor across the northern region of Bosnia to link up with Krajina, the biggest of the Serb enclaves in Croatia. After the fall last week of Bosanski Brod, a crucial town held by Croats and Muslims, the Serbs concentrated their firepower on the three towns that stand in the way of a Serbian land link.

Muslims and Croats still control Orasje, Gradacac and part of Brcko in northeastern Bosnia. Yesterday, Gradacac suffered the fiercest attacks since the start of the war. Serb forces were reported to control the suburbs and had found bodies of about 20 Croat or Muslim soldiers.

Muhammad Sacirbey, Bosnia's ambassador to the UN, said Bosnian Muslims had devised a dangerous tactic to defend themselves from Serb air and ground attack, by placing rail cars full of chlorine gas around Tuzla and Gradacac. He claimed that the cars, if hit during fighting, would explode, spreading poison gas not only over Bosnia, but also Croatia, Serbia and Hungary.

As the RAF resumed aid flights to Sarajevo a week after the air corridor was reopened, fighting also continued in the south of the country between Mostar and Nevesinje, according to the Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency.

The latest clashes erupted as Serb and Croat leaders prepared in Zagreb for the first round of bilateral talks since President Tudjman of Croatia met President Cosic of the rump Yugoslavia, in Geneva. The talks will concentrate on reopening the Belgrade-Zagreb highway and the demilitarisation of the Treblinka peninsula, south of Dubrovnik.

□ American arms US officials are exploring the idea of sending arms to the outgunned Muslims in Bosnia. The New York Times reported yesterday. But the newspaper said this was opposed by senior officials.



Life in ruins: a Croat couple, both 86, outside the rubble that was their home in Zupanja, southeast Slavonia

## Honour for frail Nureyev

FROM CHARLES BRENNER IN PARIS

RUDOLF Nureyev, seriously ill with what friends say is an advanced AIDS condition, has been decorated by the French government for a lifetime of excellence in the arts at an emotional ceremony here.

Friends and a galaxy of ballet stars watched, some forcing back tears, as the frail and emaciated dancer was helped into a gilded chair to receive the insignia of Commander of Arts and Letters from Jack Lang, the culture minister. Before the ceremony on Thursday, Nureyev, 54, was led on stage for a ten-minute ovation at the Opera Garnier after the first night of *La Bayadere*. He directed the work and the occasion was treated as his swansong.

## France prepares to scupper any deal on world trade

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

NEGOTIATORS of the European Community and the United States met here yesterday for last-ditch talks on resolving the deadlock over world trade talks amid claims by French ministers that the negotiations are a waste of time. They threatened to obstruct any deal that might emerge.

Most EC governments are keen to clinch a deal that might boost world trade by about £140 billion a year and help the West out of recession. Both sides believe that no breakthrough can be made after the end of this month because of the US election.

Yesterday's talks were held at the request of President Bush, who needs a diplomatic success to offset his poor showing in the US election campaign. Carla Hills, the

American trade representative, had made cautiously optimistic noises before leaving Washington to meet Frans Andriessen, the Community's chief negotiator, to try to break the deadlock over the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gat).

The French Socialist government, facing a general election next March and holding no more than 25 per cent of the vote in opinion polls, fired a barrage over the weekend. "The negotiations can in no way be concluded on the current basis," Roland Dumas, the foreign minister, said. "The gap between the stated positions of the US and EC is too great."

Jean-Pierre Soisson, the new French farm minister, dashed to Brussels on Friday to reinforce warnings that his

government would not agree to any package that breaches the guidelines that governments have laid down for European Commission negotiators. "Is it possible to do in a few days what we haven't managed in six years?" he said yesterday. "We cannot cave in to American demands."

French officials have made clear that if the talks produce a deal they oppose. President Mitterrand is likely to veto it at Friday's Birmingham summit, citing a threat to his country's "vital national interests". France claims that a proposed 24 per cent cut in subsidised farm exports would ruin its disaffected farmers, who had largely voted against the Maastricht treaty in the French referendum.

Secret treaty, page 1



## Fleeing family has no more to fight for

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN SLAVONSKI BROD

MLADEN Bazler, 20, was shot twice in the battle for Bosanski Brod, just over the River Sava, the border between Bosnia and Croatia. He was hit by bullets that fragmented, breaking up as they cut through his body.

In peaceful times, he would have been hovering somewhere between adolescence and maturity. But now Bosnia's males are truly harassed by and under fire, and everybody must fight. In Sarajevo, teenagers are equipped with shotguns and sent to the front: boys of 11 are recruited as runners, taking messages from headquarters to frontlines, dodging enemy troops.

Still, Mladen was one of the comparatively lucky ones. He was evacuated to Zagreb and is off the danger list. The corpses of his fellow Muslim and Croat defenders of Bosanski Brod littered the city's streets after it fell to Serb forces last Tuesday night. The taking of the town was an important strategic victory for the Serbs and another hammer-blow to Bosnian dreams of territorial integrity.

After he was hit, Mladen reached Slavonki Brod by swimming across the river. Like his father, Martin, 55, he was a driver in the 101st Brigade of the HVO, the Croatian Defence Organisation that fights in Bosnia.

He was too weak to tell his story, but his father told what had happened to him. "They were shooting for two hours

He was in the water, calling for help, when a refugee heard him and fetched some Croatian soldiers. They had to shoot back at the Serbs while they got him out." The elder Bazler was in a lorry behind his son when he was hit, but managed to get to the bridge before it was blown up; he escaped unscathed.

Since the fall of Bosanski Brod, Slavonki Brod has been under curfew after 8pm and blacked out. The months of artillery bombardment that had claimed 670 lives and wounded 4,600 people since the end of March has ceased, at least for now. But new dangers beckon.

Serb forces are less than 200 yards from the outskirts of Slavonki Brod, just over the river. Their snipers shoot sporadically into the Croatian town. The fall of Bosanski Brod has given Serb forces a large strategic advantage, helping to consolidate a land route stretching from Serbia across Bosnia to the Serb-held region of Krajina.

In many ways the Bazler family has been lucky. Mladen has been badly wounded, but they are all alive. The loss of the town, though, is a turning point in the war for Bosnia and in the life of the family. Even if the town were recaptured from the Serbs, they have nothing to go back to. "They destroyed all our houses," Martin Bazler said. "Now I have no reason to return. What would I fight for

## Bonn joins protests against anti-Gorbachev vendetta

BY ANATOL LIEVEN IN BONN

THE German government is joining France and Italy in putting pressure on President Yeltsin of Russia over his treatment of Mikhail Gorbachev. A government spokesman has announced that, despite the ban on foreign travel imposed by a court on the former Soviet leader, it wishes him to be present at the memorial ceremonies for Willy Brandt in Berlin next Saturday.

The city of Berlin also wishes, on the same occasion, to make Mr Gorbachev an honorary citizen. Germans retain a strong feeling of gratitude to the former Soviet leader for allowing the peaceful unification of Germany.

and Herr Brandt himself often referred to that in his speeches. Mr Gorbachev has emphasised his personal friendship with Herr Brandt and in a letter to him soon before his death he wrote: "History will have much to say about the importance of your Ostpolitik as an impulse for the overcoming of the division of Germany, Europe and the world."

As the visit to Moscow last week by Klaus Kinkel, the foreign minister, showed, Bonn is also anxious to develop its special relationship with the Russian government, reflected in the high level of German aid. Mr Yeltsin has yet to achieve the



Gorbachev: invitation to Brandt memorial

same level of prestige in Germany as his predecessor and the Gorbachev affair is a setback for the Russian government. The German right-

wing press has also become increasingly critical of Mr Yeltsin because of Russian policies towards the Baltic states and Georgia.

The German government spokesman said that Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, has not yet taken an initiative on the question of a Gorbachev visit, but may do so this week. The German government statement, however, is in effect a public warning to Moscow of German concern. Last week the Italian government protested about the travel ban imposed on Mr Gorbachev and the French government issued a formal protest over the eviction of his foundation from its offices in Moscow. Western diplomats are worried by the increasingly

harsh attacks on Mr Gorbachev. Last week, Mikhail Poltaranin, the Russian information minister, accused Mr Gorbachev of planning another coup. In addition to the summons to appear in court to give evidence about past abuse of power by the Communist party, he was accused last week of illegally leasing part of his foundation for foreign currency.

That charge may be true, although such an economic "crime" is hardly unusual among Russian officials. There is a suspicion, however, that Mr Yeltsin is both satisfying his grudge against Mr Gorbachev and seeking to distract attention from his embattled government and its economic policy.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Expo '92 ends with a late rush

Seville: As the Expo '92 world fair closes in Seville at 4am tomorrow, the organisers can finally breathe a sigh of relief after six months of controversy (Edward Owen writes).

On the face of it, a last-minute surge of mainly Spanish visitors saved Expo from disaster after all its wildly optimistic predictions were dashed, mainly by the growing recession and the attractions of staying at home to watch the Olympic Games on television.

With three million visits in the last week and a maximum of 630,000 in just one day, Expo has finally become a success, receiving an estimated total of 4.2 million visits from about 15.5 million visitors. But 18 million visitors had been expected, more than half of them foreigners, instead of the third that actually arrived.

Expo '92 will not die, but will become reincarnated tomorrow as Cartuja 93, a joint project between Madrid, the regional government and Seville to turn the site into a multi-purpose complex for research and development, education, administration, exhibitions, sports and amusement.

### Romania votes

Timisoara: Ion Iliescu is expected to remain as Romanian president after yesterday's elections. Exit polls were not available after claims that they influenced voters unduly during the national elections last month. A high turnout was predicted.

### Scud search

Manama, Bahrain: The leader of the largest United Nations weapons inspection team to visit Iraq said here that his mission would focus on the 200 Scud missiles the Baghdad regime is believed still to have hidden. (AP)

### Cuts approved

Rome: The government here won a vote of confidence over a package of spending cuts equivalent to £10.5 billion, although the opposition almost defeated the measure by walking out in a bid to leave the lower house of parliament without a quorum. (Reuters)

### Rocket attack

Lima: Suspected guerrillas fired three rockets at the American ambassador's residence here, which fell short of their target. The attackers engaged members of the security forces in a gun battle for several minutes before fleeing. (AP)

### Flares fired

Moscow: The environmental activist group Greenpeace said that a Russian coastguard vessel fired flares at its protest ship that was sailing towards a former Soviet nuclear test site above the arctic circle. None of the flares hit the ship. (AP)

### Volcano erupts

Port Moresby: The government of Papua New Guinea plans to evacuate up to 6,000 people from Manam island after a volcanic eruption spewed ash and lava there at the weekend. At least three houses were destroyed by the lava flow. (AP)

### Aids project

Washington: A huge quilt bearing the names of more than 20,000 people who have died of Aids was displayed in its entirety for the first time in three years at the Washington

## Election aftermath

## Gunmen push Angola to brink of civil war

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

ANGOLA was close to civil war again yesterday as troops loyal to Jonas Savimbi's Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) clashed with government soldiers in fierce gunfights in Luanda, the capital. The fighting erupted after a bomb exploded outside a hotel used by senior Unita officials.

At least four people were reported killed and a dozen injured after riot police tried to storm the Hotel Turismo, where Unita soldiers were holding 12 policemen hostage as a reprisal for the bomb attack, which they blamed on President dos Santos' ruling Popular Movement for the

## Diplomats in Angola fear they have little time to head off a military clash prompted by last week's election result

Liberation of Angola (MPLA). Nobody was injured in the bomb attack itself, nor has any group claimed responsibility for the explosion, said to have been caused by a grenade thrown under a parked car. Because Unita has accused the government of rigging Angola's first elections and

has demanded that counting the votes should be suspended, the shock waves from the small blast could be devastating. Adding to the tension, Dr Savimbi and the rest of the Unita high command have moved out of Luanda to the heartland of their support in Huambo province.

"The mere fact that Savimbi and his senior aides are now in Huambo sends a shiver up my spine," a Western ambassador in Luanda said yesterday. "But, combined with the fighting today, there seems little doubt that we have very little time to head off a military showdown."

Luanda's international airport has been closed and Unita and government riot police have taken up offensive and defensive positions throughout the city. Witnesses said that a civilian was killed when a building housing United Nations officials came under fire, and heavy mortar fire continued for at least three hours near UN installations in the capital.

Unita said that shooting outside the Hotel Turismo started when gunmen in a black car opened fire on their guards. The Unita soldiers, armed with AK47 rifles and American grenade-launchers, returned fire at random and occupied a post office near by.

More than 100 government riot police surrounded the area and responded with fire from their Soviet RPG7 rocket-propelled grenades. Similar clashes were reported in other parts of the city. But the new, amalgamated, army was not involved.

"The city seems entirely deserted and tensions are running high, but there is not out-and-out fighting in the streets. We are anxious to defuse the situation through the joint monitoring committee [involving Unita, MPLA, American, Portuguese, Russian and UN observers] which is supposed to ensure the stability of the peace process," a European diplomat said.

## Intifada is reborn in prisoners' fast

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JUNEID, WEST BANK

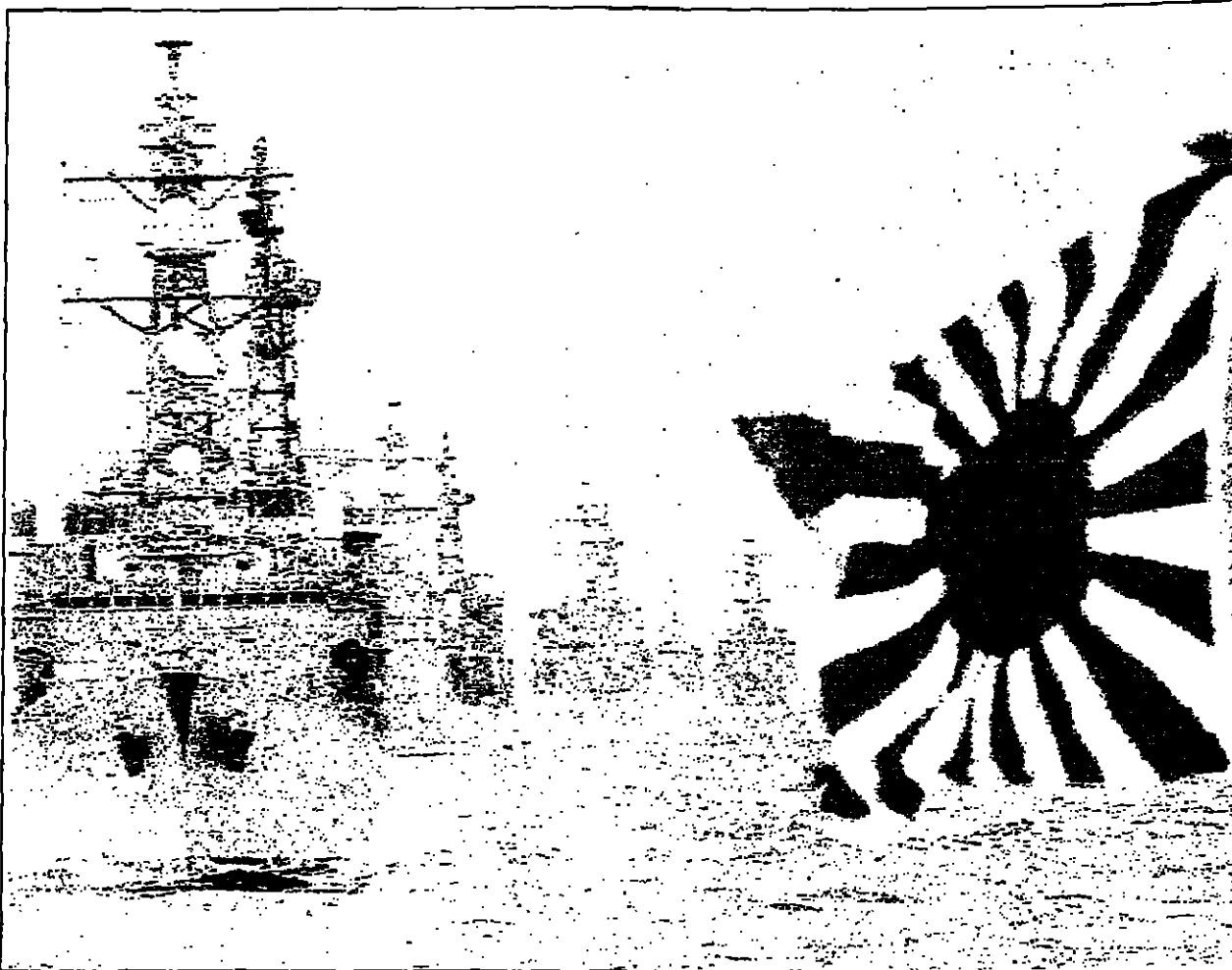
IF THE Palestinian intifada was born in the refugee camps of the Gaza Strip, then the uprising's sudden renaissance can be traced to the overcrowded cells of this maximum security prison on the West Bank.

Perched on a hill above the city of Nablus, Juneid prison, guarded by watchtowers, barbed wire and Alsatian dogs, has become the focus of the most serious challenge to Israel's Labour government. The prison, where 785 inmates are on hunger strike, is relatively clean and modern, with a library, exercise grounds, and an infirmary. But the resolve of the young Palestinian men does not appear to be waning.

Writhing in agony on his prison hospital bed, Abdulah Abu Diab realises the power that his fast can have over his jailers, particularly should he or another hunger

striker die. "I was sent to jail eight years ago for being a member of Fatah [the main faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation] and because I wanted to free my country," said Abu Diab, who, like all other inmates interviewed at Juneid, vowed to take only water until their demands were met. Their action has spread to a quarter of the 12,000 Palestinians jailed by Israel and has led to sympathy demonstrations by thousands of Palestinians.

Most of Gaza was placed under curfew yesterday after one Palestinian was killed and 60 injured on Saturday. Yesterday a Jewish settler was stabbed to death by a Palestinian in Gaza, while scores of Palestinians were wounded in clashes with troops. Earlier, residents of a refugee camp said an Arab boy of 14 had been shot dead by troops.



Steaming ahead: a destroyer flotilla of Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force, following in the wake of the Satogiri, 3,550 tons, in Sagami bay south of Tokyo yesterday during the first naval review for three years

## Deng will see party endorse his vision

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

DENG Xiaoping, China's senior leader, who has not appeared at a political meeting for more than four years, has accepted an invitation to the Communist party's congress which starts today, a party spokesman said.

Mr Deng, 88, who holds no official post, has avoided appearing at party or parliamentary meetings since early 1988, saying that he does not want to undermine the new generation of leaders. By agreeing to appear at the congress now, he is stealing the limelight from Jiang Zemin, the party general secretary, who Mr Deng chose as his successor in 1989 but who has since disappointed him. He is said to have criticised both Mr Jiang and Li Peng, the prime minister, for their opposition to reform.

Apart from showing his

disdain for Mr Jiang, there are two reasons Mr Deng may attend today. This year's congress, with its endorsement of Mr Deng's calls for radical reform, is seen, although not publicly described, as his legacy. He may want to be there to see his vision set in stone.

The other reason is that, with the power struggle between the reformists and conservatives far from over, Mr Deng may feel he has to be present to make sure things go his way. "If Deng does not turn up, it means everything is going smoothly," said one Chinese journalist. "If he does, it means he has to be there, that he is in trouble."

Liu Zhongde, the party spokesman, paid lengthy tribute to Mr Deng's calls for bolder reforms and said that they would shape the congress. "Deng Xiaoping's



Deng urging reforms to a market economy

theory and guidelines have opened up the only correct road for developing socialism," he said. Not everybody agrees. Mr Deng is expecting the party to endorse his formulation for a "socialist market economy", which means the end of central planning. Mr Deng's enemies fear that the

"socialist market economy" means the destruction of socialism and the introduction of capitalism, albeit under a new name. Others object because they have vested interests in a centralised economy and are reluctant to give up their power and privileges.

Nobody within the party hierarchy is suggesting there should be a debate about political change. Mr Deng believes that capitalist style reforms can be pursued in the absence of democracy.

□ Hong Kong: China tried to stop Chris Patten from proposing political reforms in his speech last week, the Hong Kong governor told a Sunday paper. "After we told China what I intended to say we had suggestions that I shouldn't make my speech," he said. "I had one message which said that directly." (AFP)

Leading article: page 15

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## De Klerk beset by protests

Cape Town: When President de Klerk opens an emergency session of parliament here today, he will be beset by protests outside the chamber and unhappiness within (Michael Hamlyn writes).

Cyril Ramaphosa, secretary-general of the African National Congress, and a group of Communist party figures will lead a march on parliament, demanding that it should be closed at once.

In addition, the right-wing opposition Conservative party and members of Mr de Klerk's own ruling National party and other members of the tricameral parliament, sitting together for the first time, are expected to make known their unhappiness with the political state of the country.

## Bhutto boost

Karachi: Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani opposition leader and former prime minister, received a boost in her attempted political comeback when her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, was acquitted of conspiring to kill rival political supporters.

## Indian floods

Delhi: Troops have joined relief efforts in the southern Indian state of Kerala, where floods triggered by heavy rains have killed more than 50 people and left thousands homeless after rivers burst their banks. (AFP)

## Fraud alleged

Yaoundé: John Fru Ndi, Cameroon's main opposition leader, claimed that there was widespread fraud, including ballot-box stuffing, in the country's first multiparty presidential elections, but said he still expected to defeat President Biya. (Reuters)

## Useful stress

Tokyo: The ordeal of rush hours and a stressful life helps Japanese businessmen to grow stronger and more agile. A government survey showed that men aged 30-59 registered the best scores in agility tests since 1975. (Reuters)

Cathay Pacific put businessman in space.

Offering more space than ever, Cathay Pacific now introduce new Marco Polo Business Class seating with an extra two inches of legroom on all aircraft. And also on all 747s, you'll find a new, redesigned seat featuring a convenient swivel table and fully extendable legrest for long distance comfort. What's more, we've dedicated the upper deck of all our 747s exclusively to Marco Polo Business Class and made it smoke-free. Enhancing the space and comfort of our cabin is yet another way in which Cathay Pacific help business travellers arrive in better shape.

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Arrive in better shape.



# Bush makes a last attempt to remain superpower leader

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush attended church in Washington yesterday, then flew to St. Louis, Missouri, for the first of an extraordinary series of three presidential debates, spread over the next nine days, that represent his final chance to remain leader of the world's only remaining superpower.

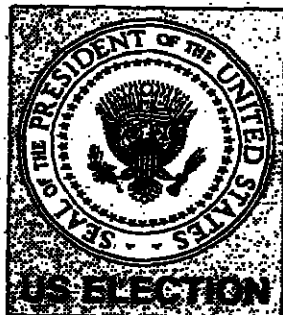
The president entered last night's opening debate in real trouble, a long way behind in the opinion polls and seemingly bereft of any potent issue with which to close the gap. To add to his woes, he is dogged by new and mounting evidence that official agencies of his administration sought illegally to cover up Washington's support before the Gulf war for President Saddam Hussein's regime in Baghdad.

In remarkable developments at the weekend, CIA officers were reported privately to have told a congressional committee that the justice department had put pressure on them to withhold important information from federal prosecutors investigating an Atlanta bank that gave Iraq billions of dollars in loans. The justice department strenuously denied the charge, saying the CIA had voluntarily withheld the information. William Barr, the attorney-general, ordered the FBI to look into the claims.

Al Gore, Bill Clinton's running mate, seized on the highly embarrassing rift to suggest that the administration's pre-war support for Iraq was not only misguided, but also criminal. "It is a seemingly blatant disregard for the law by those responsible for enforcing it," he said.

The sudden eruption of the Iraq allegations on the eve of the debate was the last thing Mr Bush needed. The Atlanta branch of Italy's Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) made more than \$4 billion (£2.4 billion) in illicit loans to Iraq before the Gulf war. Both the administration and the Italian government, which controls the bank, have claimed that Christopher Drogoul, the manager, was acting on his own, but more

With only three weeks to go to the American election, President Bush may come to regret agreeing to appear in TV debates in a bid to cut back Clinton's poll lead



US ELECTION

and more evidence is surfacing that tends to contradict that claim. The information allegedly withheld by the CIA showed that the loans had been authorised in Italy.

Congressmen are asking whether the administration connived in BNL's loans to Iraq to build up the military machine subsequently used against US forces. They also want to know if it set out deliberately to thwart the BNL investigation to spare itself or the Italian government serious embarrassment.

After 1,360 days in office, Mr Bush had somehow to use last night's debate and its sequel, next Thursday and Monday, to change the public's perception of both Mr Clinton and his own record.

The Washington Post, which has long been one of Mr Bush's sterner critics, underscored the mountainous nature of that task yesterday by endorsing Mr Clinton a full three weeks before the election. In a damning editorial, the newspaper said that Mr Bush had "long since squandered whatever claim he had to national leadership. His alternately aimless and below-the-belt campaign has been testimony to his lack of vision and ideas."

The president had failed, the newspaper said. He had "nothing useful left to say" on the great domestic problems facing a "drifting and worn-down" country. "Time's up for

him and the narrow view of government and 12 years of borrowing to spend that he has come to stand for. Time for Clinton-Gore, two moderate Democrats. Time for a change."

Helped by an advertising blitz, the Bush camp had hoped to enter the debates with the gap closing, but a new Newsweek poll showed Mr Bush still trailing Mr Clinton by 35 per cent to 44, with Mr Perot on 12. Individual state polls put the two men neck-and-neck in Mr Bush's home state of Texas, without which the president cannot possibly win re-election, and showed the Democrat leading in the key battleground states of Georgia and Michigan by six and 19 points.

The Bush camp had originally opposed debates this year, but abruptly changed course late last month when it became apparent that something drastic was needed to change opinion poll findings that have barely moved in the past six weeks. The fall in Mr Bush's popularity is all the more remarkable given that his rating in the aftermath of the Gulf war stood at nearly 90 per cent.

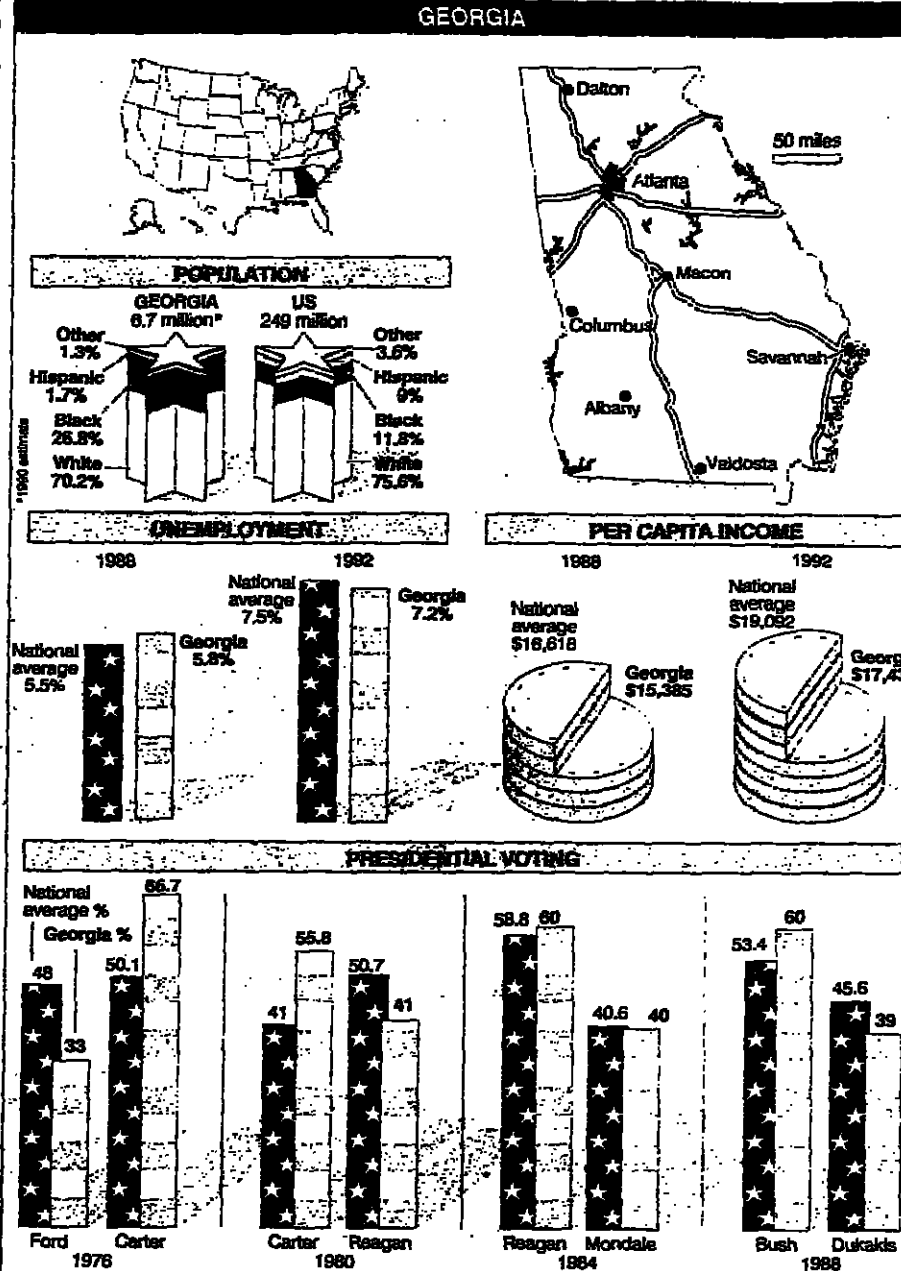
At least 70 million Americans were expected to watch last night's 90-minute debate. It was the first of its kind to have three participants, and one with great potential for drama, given the intensely personal nature of Mr Bush's assaults on Mr Clinton's draft-dodging and anti-Vietnam war activities in recent days.

The Bush campaign is already plagued by backbiting and television, and some strategists gave a warning that unless the president can use the debates to transform his prospects it could fall apart in the final days, with Republican congressional candidates across America rushing to distance themselves from the presidential ticket lest they be dragged down too. "An awful lot is riding on the outcome of these debates," Richard Cheney, Mr Bush's defence secretary, said.

Mr Bush was expected to attack Mr Clinton's character, inexperience and readiness to raise taxes, but aides were concerned that the president was tired after days of strenuous campaigning.

Mr Clinton, who has spent the past three days intensively preparing and nursing a hoarse voice, was apparently bent on keeping the debate focused narrowly on the economy, and avoiding serious gaffes that would blow his lead. Commentators drew comparisons with Ronald Reagan's position in 1980; he used his sole debate, with Jimmy Carter to show he was not the dangerous man his opponent had portrayed him to be. Mr Perot was the wildcard who could wreak havoc on both his opponents' strategies.

## US ELECTION: THE BATTLEGROUND STATES



## Poor whites say Republicans have let sweet Georgia down

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN FORT BENNING, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

PRIVATE Joe Franklyn gripped his brown Miller Lite beer bottle in a giant hand and declared, in the rapid fire speech befitting a soldier in the American Special Forces, that Bill Clinton was a chicken who dodged military service in Vietnam and was no friend of the flag or the army.

Private Franklyn's towering height and muscular arms suggested that it would have been more than a challenge to disagree. "George Bush fought his new planes in the Pacific against the Japs," said the 21-year-old soldier.

His two friends agreed and dismissed Mr Clinton's verbal gymnastics over the Vietnam draft as fiercely as they condemned his opposition to the Pentagon's ban on homosexuals in the armed forces. "It will not work letting homosexuals in: any homosexual who appeared would get beaten," one said.

Their views were little different from those of many of the soldiers jostling in and out of strip clubs and bars such as the Pillow Talk Lounge and Cat's Eyes along Victory Drive, a few minutes from Fort Benning, one of the US Army's largest bases in America. The soldiers' animosity to the Democrat cause should be heartening for the Republicans. The defence vote in Georgia is vital and contributed heavily to the trouncing of Michael Dukakis in the state in the 1988 election.

home to 114,000 servicemen and their dependants, dominates the economy of Columbus, a small town across the muddy Chattahoochee river from Alabama. As with Columbus, so with Georgia, which is among the top third of states receiving Pentagon defence contracts.

In normal times, the soldiers' disdain for a presidential candidate here would spell disaster for that candidate's chances in the state. But this year it is different. Recent opinion polls suggest that Mr Clinton can match the 1976 and 1980 victories of Jimmy Carter, a native son of the state, and snuff Georgia out of the Republicans. A survey published at the weekend by the *Atlanta Constitution* newspaper gave Mr Clinton 44 per cent, the president 38 per cent and Ross Perot 7 per cent.

The Republicans' negative campaigning on Mr Clinton's draft record is having some effect in Georgia, a state with a military tradition stretching back to the civil war. But it is not turning poor whites, who are a key voting group in the state, against the Arkansas governor.

A few miles down Victory Drive to a country and western dance in the city's cavernous public auditorium Mr Clinton's draft record was seen as irrelevant. "Vietnam wasn't a real war because the politicians limited it and betrayed us," said Frank Bowman, a

Vietnam veteran. "I don't blame Clinton for not going and all I want now is a president who will improve our health care system so we like me can get better care."

His dancing partner, Peggy Swager, 58, who has never voted Democrat in her life, nodded in agreement. "Something has to happen to the economy. Bush has done nothing. I'll go for Clinton this time and give him a chance."

For a Republican party that has draped itself in the stars and stripes, the views of these patriotic poor whites is nothing short of a disaster. To win in Georgia, a presidential candidate has to put together a coalition that geographically straddles the dynamic metropolitan area of Atlanta and the economically static, low-wage and conservative rural counties of the state.

With the exception of Jimmy Carter, whose victory in the state can be put down to local loyalty, no Democrat presidential candidate has won in Georgia since 1964. Mr Clinton, a southern governor himself, is well aware of the political geography of the state. He has campaigned hard here and Clinton-Gore commercials focusing on the economy run frequently on local television. All the Republicans can do in Georgia is continue to play on Mr Clinton's alleged lack of patriotism and hope that Private Franklyn's sentiments are echoed by civilians on polling day.

## Clinton rejects party's image in victory drive

Irwin Stelzer examines how Bill Clinton has persuaded a majority of voters to give him a chance in the White House



Bill Clinton will be the next president of the United States, according to the pollsters. Support for George Bush, says the American Enterprise Institute's polling expert, Kathryn Keene, "is frozen" at about 40 per cent. Although she thinks the president still has an outside chance, she says that if Mr Bush has not approached the 50 per cent mark by now, his prospects of avoiding an unwanted return to Kennedysport (or Houston?) are slim.

Most people in Europe wonder how Mr Bush could have fallen so fast and so far in public approval from the exalted levels he reached after the Gulf war. The answer is not hard to find: voters do not think he knows how to right the economy.

The harder question is how Mr Clinton has managed to persuade a majority of voters to give him and his Democratic party a turn at the presidency. He is, after all, the Democratic governor of a Southern state, conjuring up memories of Jimmy Carter and his domestic and foreign policy fiascos — runaway inflation, 20 per cent interest rates, a wheat embargo, petrol queues, and blindfolded hostages. The Arkansas governor also carries so much personal baggage that Americans hardly look up to him as a model of fidelity, courage or veracity.

Yet there he is, ten points ahead in the polls, threatening Mr Bush in traditionally Republican segments of the electorate: the South, the suburbs, and young voters.

Some of Mr Clinton's support comes from the ABB crowd — anyone but Bush. Ms Keene says that the new polling data show that 25 per cent of those intending to vote for Mr Clinton are doing so because they dislike Mr Bush, and that only 39 per cent of his supporters favour him.

However, Mr Clinton seems to have persuaded most voters that they can face the future with equanimity, or perhaps even hope, if they install him in

Washington. The road to that level of support has been a long one. For years the Democrats forfeited the support of the blue-collar, working-class Americans who had been their mainstay. They did so by letting the party be dominated by gays, lesbians and welfare recipients, and by becoming the tax-and-spend party.

So Mr Clinton and a group of "moderate" Democrats worked to pull the party back into the mainstream of political life. That meant, first, shaking off the image of a party bent on taking money away from white workers and giving it to black malingers and on setting quotas that favour blacks over whites in the competition for jobs. It meant distancing Mr Clinton and the party from Jesse Jackson — gently enough, not to antagonise his followers, but firmly enough to win back the blue-collar Democrats.

Second, Mr Clinton has had to persuade voters that he is not the prisoner of special interests, especially his trade union friends.

Finally, Mr Clinton has had to persuade wavering voters that he is not a tax-and-spend Democrat. His job has been made easier by the fact that Mr Bush has no credibility on the tax issue.

There is little doubt that Mr Clinton's programme cannot be funded solely from cuts in the defence budget and projected economic growth. True, he says he will raise taxes only on those earning more than \$200,000 (£13,000) a year. But there just is not enough gold in that hill to fund his promises on health and other social schemes.

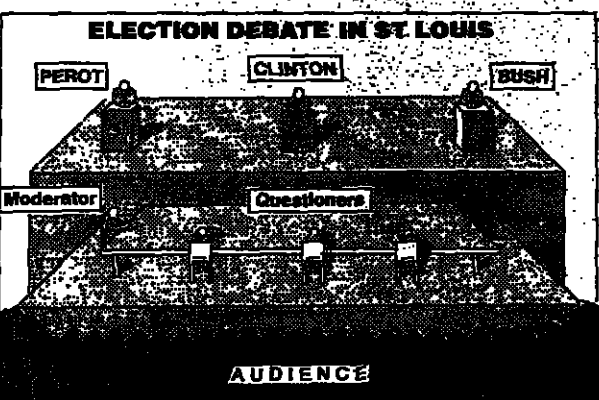
How then, can Mr Clinton hope to avoid swinging new taxes? Here he relies on ideas that have been accumulating in liberal academic circles. One financing technique is to conceal the costs of new programmes by requiring businesses to provide them. Parental leave, for example, is to be paid for by businesses, rather than with taxes. So, too, with health care. That will drive costs up, but the public will either not notice or blame businesses.

American voters are not dumb. They know that Mr Clinton may, in the end, raise their taxes. But they think Mr Bush is likely to do the same. And they do not see Mr Clinton as a leftist.

Dr Stelzer is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington DC and is contributing a weekly column to *The Times* in the run-up to the American election.



Carter: remembered for his fiascos



Rules of engagement: the presidential candidates drew lots to decide who stood where for last night's 90-minute debate. Bill Clinton took the middle podium, with President Bush standing to his left and Ross Perot to his right. They agreed that Mr Perot would make the first of the candidates' opening statements and Mr Bush the last closing statement. On every topic introduced by the moderator, the first panelist posed a question to one candidate. He had two minutes to answer and each of his opponents had a minute for rebuttal. The second and third panelists then asked different questions on the same issue to the other two.

## Columbus Day: Depardieu recreates the admiral but protests from Miami to Chile mark the anniversary

### New World found by a forceful kid from Châteauroux

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN PARIS

The anniversary of Columbus's epic voyage is causing controversy over whether he was a great explorer or an imperialist — and how he should be portrayed on screen

FIVE hundred years after he arrived in the Americas, Christopher Columbus has triggered a squall in France. The fuss has nothing to do with whether the navigator was a genius or a genocidal monster. It revolves, as does so much in France these days, around the person of Gérard Depardieu.

The greatest actor in the world, as he is known here, takes to the screens around the globe today in 1492: *Conquest of Paradise*, the French epic directed by Ridley Scott. The controversy springs from the notion that it is unpatriotic to criticise a \$45 million (£26 million) film which, in the view of supporters in the French media, will make Depardieu synonymous with the great admiral.

If Depardieu is not actually the reincarnation of Cristóbal Colón, the fact has been lost in the chorus of adulation from admirers who see the film as an epochal exploit which rivals Columbus's own voyage. "Depardieu is magnificent, but how could he be otherwise when he is stepping into shoes which are for once big enough for him?" gushed *Le Journal du Dimanche* yesterday.

*Figaro* magazine noted that "we are witnessing what we have to call the Depardieu miracle, an event which makes us understand and love the world through the history he incarnates... for hundreds of millions of spectators, the hero who first stepped into the New World has the face, the grace, the force of a kid from Châteauroux."



Riders of the storm: Ridley Scott, left, and Gérard Depardieu who stars in his film about Columbus

Depardieu, who has already incarnated Martin Guerre, Danton, Rodin and Cyrano de Bergerac and other legends, expressed the same view at the premiere in Paris on Saturday night. "It's stunning to think that millions of people will be able to feel they are in communion through a single work," he said.

On the other side are a band of critics who have committed the blasphemy of denouncing the film. *L'Événement du Jeudi* ridiculed it as "Christopher Columbus, the Disaster". The film could best be described as "Apocalypse Now by Disneyland or Columbus chez Mickey Mouse", it said. The *Nouvel Observateur* was even more unkind in a diatribe entitled: "Columbus: the shipwreck". Depardieu,

"as great and dignified" as he strived to be, the magazine said, could do nothing "against all the visual confectionery in which he has been submerged".

The film is a chance to beat Hollywood at its own game of historic epic. Depardieu is still smarting at his failure to win an Oscar for *Cyrano*. Depardieu may tackle Hamlet soon. He told *Le Monde*: "I can't stand Hamlet, because he is someone who only talks about himself. But if I was playing him, I would show him to be a man who felt bad about himself, someone who should be given a case of red wine so he would stop thinking."

Leading article, page 15  
Art and discovery, page 31

### Row brews over 511ft statue

FROM DAVID ADAMS  
IN MIAMI

AS IF there has not been enough Columbus controversy this year, a dispute is brewing in Miami over a 500-ton, 511ft bronze statue of the navigator that is being sent here as "a gift from the people of Russia".

In a gesture to mark the 500th anniversary of Columbus sailing the ocean blue, the Russian government is giving the statue to the city of Miami Beach "as a reminder of the growing friendship between the Russian and American people". But city officials have yet to find a suitable place for the statue, which if erected will be higher than New York's Statue of Liberty. Opposition is also building from people who do not like the look of the planned structure.

The first of its 1,500 parts arrived from St Petersburg at the weekend and a reception is being held today for the statue's sculptor, Zurab Tsereteli, a Georgian artist.

### Chile's Indian tribes march to regain ancestral lands

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN VILLARRICA, SOUTHERN CHILE

AS JUAN Pichumilla, chief of the Mapuche Indians, spoke vehemently about the plight of his indigenous tribe, women wearing traditional colourful robes beat drums and men clad in thick woollen ponchos blew on trumpets made out of bullock horns in the central square of Villarrica. Others held up banners saying: "After 500 years of oppression we demand back our ancestral lands."

Dozens of fellow Mapuche gathered to hold one of the hundreds of protest marches by indigenous tribes in towns and villages in southern Chile, marking today's anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas 500 years ago. Armed policemen accompanied their peaceful march across the town, with dozens of motorcycles and riot police vans.

"We are demanding back our lands and plan to take them back by reoccupying them if they are not returned by the government," said Señor Pichumilla, as he led his people through the streets. Villarrica is a small town that lies just below a snow-capped and still active volcano which

is also one of Chile's main skiing resorts. It is populated mainly by German and Italian immigrants who make a living from agriculture, timber and the tourist trade. The Mapuche live in small reserves on its outskirts.

"Timber companies have taken over our lands and are using them to grow trees and then cut them down again to make furniture. That goes totally against our culture because we respect the environment," said Leon Mellin, a young Mapuche. "We plan to occupy those lands because without land our culture and people cannot survive."

The Mapuche community, who number at least 400,000 across southern Chile and mainly live in the region of La Araucanía, are perhaps the most outspoken and active of the indigenous groups in Latin America. They were the only tribe who fought victorious battles against Spanish conquistadors. In 1881, when they surrendered, they did so on condition that they would be granted 40,500 million acres of land, which spread across southern Chile and large parts of the Argentine

pampas. They later lost the majority of their lands to a succession of governments and private landowners.

In recent months they have been occupying timber estates. Two weeks ago, 140 members of a Mapuche organisation, the Council of All Lands, were detained for illegally occupying land owned by a multimillionaire timber merchant.

"All our demands have been ignored by the government, so we will continue the reoccupation of our ancestral land," said Manuel Santander, a member of the council. The government of President Aylwin had promised to recognise the rights of indigenous groups but so far has failed to do so. When a delegation of Mapuche travelled to Santiago last week to deliver a list of demands they were refused entry by armed guards.

"We thought that with democracy we'd have a better chance of gaining our rights back, have our people and culture recognised, but things are just as bad as when Spanish conquistadors ruled this country," said Orosman Lincheo, a Mapuche leader in near by Temuco.



**CERTAIN POINTS**

What Mrs Brown got right all those years ago, was that a magazine has to be inspirational: which is why good magazines like *Novus*, which was not, failed, and why *Cosmo*, with its zest and zealotry, sashays on.

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Brenda Polan on the brightest hopes of

British fashion today

# A New Look for the nineties

The London designer collections may lack the glamour, the hysteria and smell of money which characterise the Milan shows, but for Spring 1993 at least, the clothes make better sense.

There is a feeling that the designers who still show in London are a rump of British fashion, the left-behinds too timorous to take on the big guns of Italian or French fashion on their own, more lucrative ground. Ozbek has gone to Milan, Westwood, Galliano and Hammett to Paris. They do better business there and that is what it is all about.

It does, however, leave the British School of Fashion Council in a quandary about who qualifies as a British designer: do you have to show here, manufacture here or will merely living and maintaining a studio and head office here do? Which might not matter if it were not for a small thing called the Designer of the Year Award to be presented this evening by the Duchess of Kent (who wears Armani for preference).

The six names on the shortlist include Rifat Ozbek and Vivienne Westwood. The list was originally longer but Jasper Conran withdrew his name. It was alleged that he disapproved of Mr. Ozbek's inclusion since he not only shows in Italy, he manufactures there too. On the contrary, responded Mr. Conran, he finds the expense and self-congratulation of the gala event at the Grosvenor House Hotel untimely.

Yet what is the alternative? The fashion business is a thing of mood and fantasy, and that takes confidence to sell. If the industry is unconfident, then it must fake it.

So far, the international brave face is convincing. The Milanese designers almost to man pursued a new course, one which was prefigured on the streets and in the clubs of London as long as two years ago, as the style vanguard raided Oxford shops and their parents' mothballed wardrobes for the decorated, pavement trailing clothes of 20 years ago.

Whether fashion commentators loved or hated the look depended on whether they had worn it before. Those for whom it is as much part of history as the farthingdale rather approved.

The straight, slit long skirt was always destined to be a transitional garment to woo the suburban leg-flaunter from her micro-skirt and leggings.

As a result, the spring versions are much easier. Betty Jackson's gently flared skirt with long semi-fitted jacket or long, fluid Aertex overshirt; Westwood's full-skirted, tight-waisted, peplumed homage to Dior's New Look; Workers For Freedom's brightly smudge-dyed circular silk skirts and big beautiful shirts; Arabella Pollen's pareo-wrapped skirts and buttoned-up safari jackets and her multi-layered, ankle-flirting chiffon skirt; Conran's slightly Edwardian-looking fish-tailed skirts with tight jackets or tiny close-fitting, halter-necks; the flaring slips of slithery bias-cut satin upon which Ben de Lisi and Bella Freud agree; Helen Storey's earth-mother full skirts with shrunken looking skinny-rib cardies; John Richmond's raunchy, narrow-shouldered, tight-sleeved, chilled-out cowgirls.

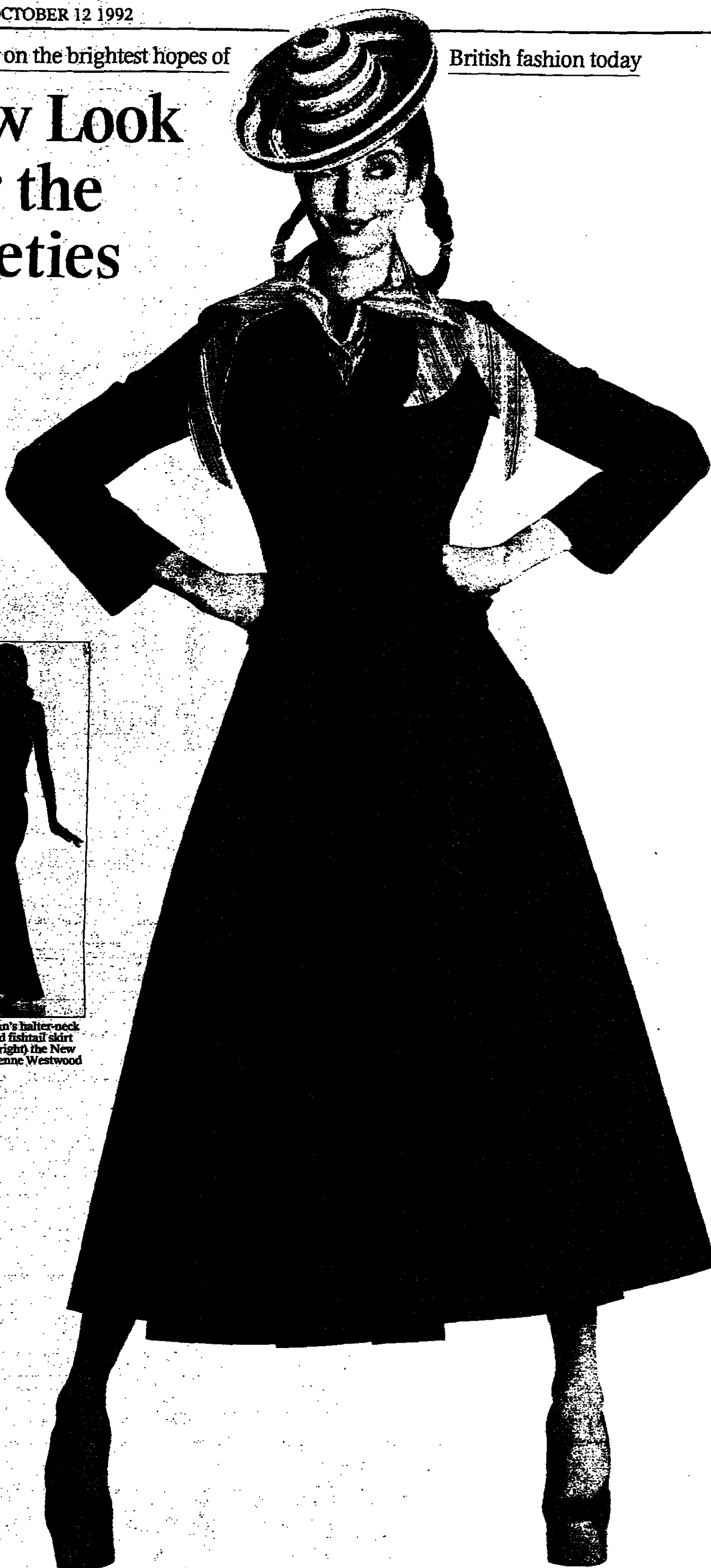
Fashion revivals are never quite carbon copies. That's not a ploy to prevent a simple recycling job. It is because time has passed, aesthetic sensibilities have changed and technology has transformed raw materials. Nor is it ever fair to dismiss a revival as due a paucity of imagination. There is always an emotional or psychological link between the now and the then, a need which the nostalgia answers.

British designers are particularly good at romanticism and British women particularly fond of it. It calls for imagination, improvisation and some therapeutic rummaging through attic, jumble sale and flea market. It is going to feel like strutting off a uniform and getting into glad rags.

Photographs by Chris Moore



Jasper Conran's halter-neck waistcoat and fishtail skirt (above) and (right) the New Look by Vivienne Westwood



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John Richmond's raunchy, narrow-shouldered, tight-sleeved, chilled-out cowgirl (right) in red button-through dress



Betty Jackson's refined sporty look includes gently flared skirts with long, semi-fitted jackets and (left) an antheric and white body with ankle-length net wrap skirt

## HOT LINE

### Richmond revs up to Destroy

JOHN RICHMOND, the designer known for his painted and embroidered biker's jackets, had a busy weekend and tonight he could crown it with a grand finale.

On Friday he showed his new "F--- It, Forget It, Go For It" spring/summer main collection with the slogan "shop your way out of a recession". On Saturday he opened the first Destroy Boutique. The two-storey shop — with "industrial chic" decor — at 57/59 Neal Street, in London's Covent Garden, will sell both his Destroy and Denim lines for men and women. The womanswear "house couture" collection includes underwear as outerwear — satin corsetry (about £45), long slinky satin dresses (about £100), bouclé bustier tops (£40) and long split skirts (£95).

Then tonight, at the Lloyds Bank fashion awards — the fashion Oscars — Mr Richmond will be a strong favourite to land the Designer of Year award. Vivienne Westwood twinners for the past two years, Rifat Ozbek, Arabella Pollen, Nicole Farhi and Catherine Walker are also nominated.



On the catwalk: part of Richmond's Destroy line

### Open season

PERHAPS "shop your way out of a recession" is a slogan for the season. During the past few months some of the most illustrious designers have opened stores. Gianni Versace in Old Bond Street, Christian Lacroix in Sloane Street and two new Emporio Armani stores, one in Manchester and one in London's Covent Garden. Now the British are taking advantage of lower rents. Margaret Howell's new shop in Brook Street, W1 has her suede front cardigans (£250), flannel pinafore dresses (£200) and perennial favourite white shirt (£98). Hyper Hyper has also opened a shop in London at 131-133 King's Road to house the Hyper Hyper International own label collection, with more than 1,000 pieces priced from £45 to £279.

### Show time

THE trend for stores to hold exhibitions continues: two opened in London on Friday.



Back to the front: a Van der Straeten necklace

day. One, at Joseph, 77 Fulham Road, SW3, displays 16th and 17th century Venetian beads which have been collected, restrung and designed as necklaces by Alistair McAlpine. The other, at Liberty, Regent Street, W1, shows the work of the Parisian jewellery designer Hervé Van der Straeten.

On show is his "couture" jewellery collection — made from brass and bronze washed with gold and embellished with roughly cut semi-precious stones — and his new collection of home accessories, such as candelabras and candlesticks. The exhibition runs until Christmas.

### Early start

THE Paris collections, which start showing on Wednesday, do not usually hot up until the end of the week, when the stars take to the catwalk, but this time the high spot of the week is on the first day. Karl Lagerfeld has returned as designer for Chloe, the fashion house at which he made his name in the 1970s and early 1980s. He already designs ten collections a year — four for Chanel, two for Fendi, two for his own label and two for KL, his diffusion line. Will the press mandarins — Anna Wintour of American Vogue, Liz Tilberis of Harper's Bazaar, and John Fairchild, of the fashion bible Woman's Wear Daily — manage to be in Paris for Wednesday, rather than send their sidekicks early and turn up themselves some time on Friday?

SARAH NEWTON

## IS THE LAW MALE?

A Times/Dillons debate on injustice in the British legal system, looking in particular at the treatment of women in our courts, will be held later this month. Helena Kennedy, QC, will lead the debate, seconded by Geoff Robertson, QC. They will be opposed by the barrister Christina Gorna, seconded by Michael Kalisher, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association. Lord Williams of Mostyn will be in the chair.

The debate will take place on Thursday, October 29 at 7.15pm at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, WC1. Times readers can obtain tickets by filling in the coupon below.

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Matthew Parris

■ Is there a 900-year-old tribal divide in Britain that we have not addressed?

Fault lines have been much in the news lately. The metaphor risks joining the ranks of buzz-phrases whose original import is forgotten. Poor Lord Armstrong must despair of his clever phrase "economical with the truth" ever recovering the meaning he intended. Already, "fault line" is being used as journalist-chic for split or fracture. It means nothing of the kind. It means a line along which a fracture could easily occur. Those who have scalded themselves when the glued-on handle of a teapot comes adrift will know what happens when a fault line becomes a fracture.

And, with tongue not so much in cheek as you might think, I approach the European debate announcing the discovery of the mother of all fault lines. It dates from 1066. It is the fault line among us between Norman and Saxon.

Teasingly in the air over our island hangs a strange thought. It is only a hint, yet it tugs at the sleeve of our emotions. It is the unconscious knowledge that England is an occupied country.

How fast does folk memory fade? For we are a recent nation. Nine hundred years are only twelve lifetimes. The Norman Conquest was a very great humiliation, the subjection of the natives a seismic upheaval. Study our use of language — the class attitudes which a choice between the French and the Anglo-Saxon word can signal — and you will see that the bodies of those slain at Hastings are buried very close to the surface of our resentment. Undertones of snobbery and defiance still resonate through our vocabulary, a persistent chord. Inherent in the language itself is a clash of authority. Is it so very absurd to conjecture that, not just in linguistics but in other subliminal ways, the civil war between occupier and occupied is still being played out in England? This is (I believe) what lends to our own class structure that nasty edge which visitors to Britain always notice. It is perhaps what helped Henry VIII secure the acquiescence he needed to smash the Roman Catholic Church in England. It may have fuelled, and still fuel, the latent anti-Catholicism here.

Let me be clear. I am suggesting nothing so crude as a Saxon-Protestant/Eurocentric dynasty, facing down through the centuries a Norman-Catholic-federalist family tree. No such succession can be traced through real individuals or groups. After all, Bill Cash is a Catholic. But why is it that to Europe, Chris Patten's Catholicism, but not to Bill Cash's, we have to suppress the silly reaction: "Well he would be, wouldn't he?"

Instinctively, humans look for a pattern in events, and our history has given us a subliminal blueprint. I do not postulate an actual tribal division, but something more elusive: a sense among us, among all of us, running deep and a long way back, of an indigenous culture under some kind of siege: a readiness to see not only foreigners, but fellow citizens too, as collaborators in a plot to take our inheritance away from us. If you doubt that this is dangerously tangled with class, then notice the section of the Brighton audience from which Lord Tebbit got the easiest and most raucous cheers last week; and ask to which sections of society Lord Jenkins of Hillhead could most easily appeal.

The thesis should not be overstated. Crude nationalism has its appeal to any nation's *hoi polloi*; but the readiness of our own masses to bracket toffs with Europeanists, and to link popular patriotism with social resentment, is unusually pronounced. A folk memory linking the Saxon with the downtrodden, and the Frenchman with the oppressor, may be adding fuel to these flames.

Interestingly, it is the Frenchman, not the Hun, whose imagined pretensions we leap to thwart. You would think that, with all the ghastly history of two world wars still fresh in our minds, anti-German memories would be the easiest for politicians to refresh. It is not so. We are surprisingly slow to respond to wartime imagery. You did not get a cheer at Brighton by attacking the Germans — indeed, one anti-Maastricht speaker was loudly cheered when he said the Bundesbank was only doing what our own authorities should have done: acting in its national interest. Contrast that with the instant antipathy to M Delors upon which Mrs Thatcher played. When, earlier this year, French fishermen allegedly cut the nets of Cornish vessels, the eruption in the House of Commons was quite extraordinary to behold. If, as looks possible, France aligns herself increasingly with German hegemony in the EC, we shall find our countrymen more easily roused to anger over the willingness of the French to lead than over the readiness of the Germans to follow. "Our sweet enemy", as Sir Philip Sidney called her, evokes responses in us which lie so close to the surface.

Norman and Saxon: it is tempting to look for stereotypes. Roy Jenkins and Douglas Hurd are obvious French aristocrats, and although his looks may be Anglo-Saxon, one can imagine Chris Patten's ill-disguised disdain for a peasantry unfamiliar with the use of knives and forks. Lord Tebbit — though Norman by name and Norman by countenance — is a natural native chief of rebel serfs: Teddy Taylor and Tony Marlow his stalwart lieutenants. Nicholas Budgen, I think, is a Norman-born intellectual who has gone native and lent his learning to the Saxon cause. There are the makings, here, of a *Private Eye* comic-strip, *Asterix*-style.

But the real picture is more ragged. It was touched on by the prime minister in his speech at Brighton on Friday, when he remarked that we all feel the tug of crude nationalism: the conflict between heart and head. Interesting that he used the metaphor of heart and head. The Norman-Saxon fault line, I think, runs not between us English, but within each of us. Individually, choices have to be made, and loyalties declared, and some have ranged themselves politically to one side of the line, some to the other. But the real stress-point is internal. We are, as Mr Major said, torn. Whichever way our loyalties fall, each of us understands the opposing loyalty all too well, feels it all too keenly.

That is why the conflict is so strangely bitter, and why, whoever wins, it will never really be resolved.

The war of the political memoirs is proving explosive for the Major cabinet, argues Peter Riddell.

## Why Lawson was right

John Major hoped his premiership would mark the End of History — that at last the struggles of the 1980s over the pound and Europe might be over. History, however, always has its revenge. The battles of the memoirs about the pound and monetary control are echoing around the cabinet room. These issues, far more than Maastricht, are what will decide the government's fate.

The key document is Nigel Lawson's memoirs. His account of decision making during the 1980s is by far the most damning criticism to date of Baroness Thatcher's record. It shows that those of us writing at the time about cabinet splits were not exaggerating, as Sir Bernard Ingham routinely, and more earthily, used to suggest. If anything we were underplaying the divisions.

The arguments about who was responsible for the policy errors which reignited inflation and led to the present recession are not just an interesting historical diversion. They have a crucial bearing on the current debate. One former colleague of

Lord Lawson's at the Treasury, still in a senior cabinet post, describes the extracts as "irrefutable".

Lord Lawson is not blameless for what happened, not least in failing to appreciate the full impact of the deregulation of financial markets and of the tax cuts in the 1988 Budget. Nicholas Ridley has a point when he argues that "Nigel Lawson's attitude to those events is that Margaret Thatcher was a rather eccentric sort of figurehead, and that he was the man who knew what to do and the person who should take all the economic decisions". But, on the key points, Lord Lawson was right and Lady Thatcher was, and is, wrong. Lady Thatcher's behaviour, notably over interest rate policy in the first half of 1988, helped intensify the inflationary boom. In retrospect, Lord Lawson should have resigned then.

At the heart of the debate are differences about how the economy functions and how much the pound affects inflation. These are not confined to academic economists but were being discussed in the bars and parties of Brighton by flesh-and-blood politicians. Pure monetarists, such as Lord Ridley, Professor Patrick Minford and Tim Congdon, argue that what matters is the domestic money supply. Provided that is under control, an increase in the prices of imports brought about by a fall in the value of the pound cannot affect the general level of prices. They point to the decline in the inflation rate from a peak of nearly 22 per cent in 1980 to under 4 per cent in 1983; it remained in single figures until 1990-91. But the earlier decline followed a period when monetary growth was rapid, though the pound was very strong. The inflation rate then rose again

after sterling fell sharply. The inflation rate would have been higher but for the willingness of importers to trim their then big profit margins.

These comparisons matter since they indicate how much the present fall in the value of the pound, of more than 10 per cent since September 16, may push up prices. Monetarists maintain that, with the economy in recession and the money supply well under control, there is no risk of inflation reaccelerating. But the record of the 1980s suggests that, while the recession may restrain any immediate jump in inflation, too sharp a fall in the pound would have damaging effects. The big uncertainty is about how far importers will cut margins or put up prices.

Norman Lamont is sceptical about the views of the pure monetarists. The main monetary measures were an unre-

able guide in the late-1980s boom and may also be today when debt is being run down. Mr Lamont has always been agnostic between fixed and floating exchange rates as a way of running the economy, but does not believe in an ever depreciating currency. Hence he has opted for an inflation target, and will use various monetary indicators, including the exchange rate, as a guide for a policy relying on judgment rather than rules.

The monetarists, who are more or less synonymous with the cabinet's Euro-sceptics, argue that the government can take a relaxed view about the level of sterling, while the majority cabinet view is that the pound should not be allowed to fall too far. Pro-EC ministers also want a stable pound policy to prepare the way for re-entry to the ERM. This question has, of course, changed since Lord

Lawson urged entry partly as a means of blocking a single currency. But the link of ERM to Maastricht has stiffened the views of ministers like Peter Lilley who were originally sympathetic to the ERM but who oppose a federal Europe.

In practice, nothing will happen on ERM re-entry until after the Maastricht treaty has been ratified, and probably until the economy starts recovering. Mr Major knows that the ERM has become the symbol of all his party dislikes about the EC, so that it would be self-defeating to re-open that issue while the bill is still going through parliament. In that respect there are similarities to 1974-75, when the Wilson government put off strong measures against inflation until after the referendum on EC membership was out of the way. This time, the government will have to take tough action on public spending soon. Mr Major will defer any decision on re-entry to the ERM until after the fate of the treaty is decided. But that will not stop the arguments of the 1980s from rumbling on.

### Bernard Levin counsels young writers to look to their book-keeping

It's neglected-author-starving-in-a-garret time again: is it my imagination or does it come round faster now? Well, it has come round this time with true tragedy: the story is recounted in the *Daily Mail*, in an excellent account by Carolyn Hart. A young and successful novelist, Richard Burns, who had a substantial shelf of respected novels and of literary prizes for them, found that the money he earned from them was little more than a pittance, let alone enough to keep the large family he had. With a bitter farewell, he committed suicide.

I find it difficult to believe that his failure to make a considerable income out of his writing was the only cause of his despair, but no doubt it contributed substantially to whatever else was driving him to his death; his literary success must inevitably have made him think that fortune also was on the way, with the concomitant disappointment when it was not.

I write books; my 13th, *absit omen*, is about to appear; you can't miss it — it has the weirdest white jacket with gnomish utterances from my works scattered all over it, together with geometrical bits and pieces. We shall see. The previous ones have all been pleasantly successful, though I must pause immediately to make clear that "successful", in my terms, would be catastrophic failure in Jeffrey Archer's. In hardback I score anything from six or seven thousand to sometimes more than double that, and of course proportionately more in soft covers. Three travel books I wrote were done back-to-back with a television series, which bumped the figures up. Still, I could not live on my royalties alone, but you who are reading this know that I don't have to.

But then, I would think myself mad if I tried. The poor fellow who killed himself because he was getting too little to live on from his books must have thought at some point that

in addition to the *réclame* which he clearly deserved, the money also would come rolling in. Who was his publisher? Why was he not warned of the truth? There are only a handful of serious writers in this country (or any country, come to that) who make a serious living by their pen. There are, of course, the Archers and Forsyths and Cartlands, and good luck to them; but they are *sui generis*, with a market ready and eager for them.

I am, of course, speaking mostly about novels and novelists; I have recounted elsewhere my only attempt at fiction, which — praise be — instantly cured me of thinking I might have a second go; since then, I remain on the sidelines where novels are concerned, and I read few new ones. My publisher once asked me if I would sit on the Booker prize jury; I made the sign of the evil eye and told him that if he made so repulsive

a suggestion again I would go to the Tongatapu Islands and stay there.

Hang out your banners on the outward walls — the cry is still "They come!" And so they do, the poor saps, thinking that they — they! — are going to beat the odds and buy a beautiful chalet in the south of France with the first royalty payment. I am not being cynical; for Richard Burns, who hanged himself, I can match a very dear friend of mine who found an even more terrible way to die. He, too, thought, every time, that because his novels were published he would make a fortune, only to find out that there was a hole in the logic.

In the article with which I started there was a comment from a hard-headed publisher: "Lack of money never stopped anyone writing. The trouble is authors are trying to live off advances of £2,000 or so and you can't do that. At least not

until you've won the Booker. After their first or second book, writers have huge expectations which are seldom, if ever, fulfilled."

Lack of money never stopped anyone writing. Yes, yes, we all know about Trollope, holding down a responsible and demanding job all week, hustling every weekend, and nevertheless writing a score or so of very thick (and highly entertaining) novels; but — this is the only advice I shall give you, you budding geniuses, and you will ignore it: YOU AREN'T AS CLEVER AS TROLLOPE.

Much more is turned on these writers who get gigantic advances, but the irreverent are silly; publishers are tradesmen, and they sell their goods for what they can get. That nice, clever, hard-working Susan Hill has been commissioned to write a sequel to *Daphne du Maur-*

ier's *Rebecca*, and she is said to be getting anything up to a million snappers for it. Howls of rage will greet her, but if the publishers did not think that they would get their money back with considerable interest, they would not have done the deal. (Spare me, I beg you, the one that goes "advances like that mean miserable advances for the rest of us"; the very same principles of book-keeping will sort out the silver wheat from the chromium chaff.)

Nobody is compelled to write a novel. I shall repeat that, in italics: nobody is compelled to write a novel. There are various charitable funds which dispense modest sums for writers who have fallen on hard times, and such eleemosynary help is no doubt welcome, but there is a difference between those who need money to live, and those who need it to write. Brutally speaking, nobody needs money to write, because nobody needs

to write. Or rather, those who must write, because they are Shakespeare or Milton or Dickens or Levin, will find a way. Levin, of course, has found a way, in journalism, but the other three will, I am sure, work out something for themselves.

But if they don't, I rather think that they will not complain about the monstrous advances that Jonson and Pope and Thackeray are getting. They will recognise that it is impossible to measure quality, or at least to measure quality by its cost, and anyway they can always borrow the odd fiver from the ones with the lavish advances. And I have a cheery last word for the indignant authors who get minuscule advances: publishers, too, sometimes guess wrongly which author will be a success, and thus go bust. Next time one does, let's all go round and jinx at him in the street, particularly if he is trying to sell matches.

### Buckling in Brum

AS PREPARATIONS continue in Birmingham this week for the emergency summit on Friday, Britain's second city is feeling the strain. The civic fathers may talk expansively of a Treaty of Birmingham replacing Maastricht, but edicts from both the Foreign Office and the local authority are making life difficult for any organisation competing with the EC for floorspace.

Birmingham Rep, which is being used as a media centre, has been forced to cancel its performance of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* on the basis that it could prove a security risk. "We are about 20 feet from the front door of the conference centre," says Bill Hughes, general manager. "The Foreign Office has told us it does not want hundreds of people milling about. I only hope it doesn't become a habit every time we have a major conference here."

Worse still is the blow dealt to the Birmingham Film Festival, which was to have had its grand awards dinner at the International Conference Centre on Thursday night. The event has

been moved to the Midland Hotel, much to the annoyance of organisers who have invited a host of television personalities. "We have 14 members of *Emmerdale* coming, you know," says a spokeswoman indignantly.

Cabbies, meanwhile, are upset to learn that the city council is locked in negotiation with Jaguar and Rover to provide courtesy limousines for Eurocrats and journalists attending the summit. The taxi drivers are unlikely to be wearing the special lapel badges cast to commemorate the day — they are astonished that, in a city with such a vibrant jewellery quarter, the badges have been created by a French company. But restaurateurs and hoteliers are clearly hoping for large profits and the summit, of course, was announced barely a week after Birmingham considered setting up an official red-light area. Balsall Heath, at least, is ready to welcome the European ideal.

#### White knight

COVENT GARDEN wasted little time in finding an extra slot in its otherwise hectic calendar for Trevor Nunn's highly acclaimed production of *Porgy and Bess*. But officials at the



## DIARY

Royal Opera House were yesterday left with an embarrassing difficulty. Having already advertised the new date for November 4, they have discovered a technical hitch in the scheduling of the performance.

The news of a possible cancellation may be viewed as a mixed blessing by some of the cast, who are rather sceptical about the extra workload. Willard White, considered by many the definitive Porgy and about to record the role on film, agrees it will be a tall order. "But the management of the opera house says this will assist them immensely and who could say no to that. I think this production will help recoup some of the losses they have made from various other operas. I find it particularly gratifying that this opera should come to the assistance of an international house." Jeremy Isaacs, who has just had his contract as director of

Covent Garden renewed, would doubtless agree.

#### Hazing his bets

SPIKE LEE is prepared to revile all who stand for the presidency, but the American filmmaker has clearly learnt a lesson from Salman Rushdie when it comes to the world of Islam. Lee, whose latest film *Malcolm X* goes on general release in America next month, has taken pains to ensure he does not fall foul of a furor.

Malcolm X is considered a martyr throughout Islam. Having decided to shoot footage of Malcolm's haj, or pilgrimage to Mecca, Lee sent a crew — converted to Islam for the purpose — to Saudi Arabia. Before doing so, however, the director visited the highest Islamic court in the land, equivalent to that which ordered the death sentence on Rushdie.

"They gave us the seal of approval," says Lee. "Rushdie can take care of his own business. I knew what I was going into and there was no way I wanted to be killed. Malcolm is a martyr in the world of Islam. I'm in it to win."

John Major's tactics at Brighton in buttonholing the new intake of Tory MPs who may rebel on Maastricht has given birth to a T-shirt. It has been designed by the Standard Bearers, a group of high-flying young MPs including Charles Hendry, David Lidington, David Willetts and Alan Duncan. The logo? Standard Bearers do it without whips.

#### Finchley's finest

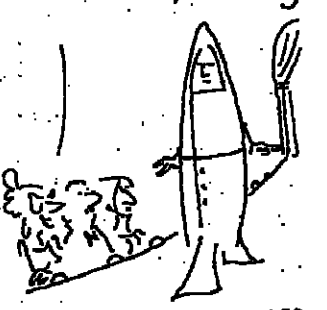
THE last vestige of East German bureaucracy has now been eradicated from British diplomatic life with the sale of the former embassy and a portfolio of residential properties in north London. While most London missions can claim some link with Belgrave and other fashionable locations, the thrifty East Germans maintained their presence in the less expensive suburbs of Finchley and Edgware.

All these have now been sold for £2.5 million to the develop-

ment company Quality Street, specialising in rented homes. "These developments will be some of the first examples of property specifically designed for rental in the private sector," says Paul Mugaioni, the managing director. "We are currently finalising the deal with authorities in eastern Germany."

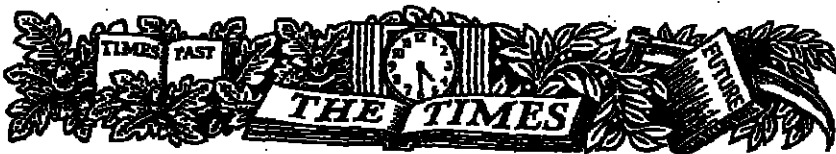
Former diplomats to London will doubtless be pleased to hear that their new masters have entered so readily into the spirit of the free market.

It'll go down a bomb, darling



The world of haute couture cannot be accused of not doing its bit to help European relations during this tense time for the Community. Versace's latest range for men is called V2.





## INTO HISTORY'S DUSTBIN

■ Evil choices for China's old men

The five-yearly national Congresses of China's Communist Party are bland by deliberate design. All arguments have been fought through beforehand by the tiny group of people who matter. The job of the cadres who troop into the Great Hall of the People today for the 14th Congress is to "uphold the basic line of the party for 100 years without deviation."

Yet these stage-managed events are watched in China and abroad with all the avidity with which ancient priests inspected oracle bones. The identities of those "elected" to central committee and politburo, and the precise degree of enthusiasm with which the cadres are asked to embrace "reform, modernisation and the open door" this year, will give the first firm indications since the collapse of the Soviet Union of the outcome of a battle that has left China's ancient leadership.

This battle is not about whether to preserve the power of the Communist Party, but how best to save it from following European communism into history's dustbin. Nor is it a battle between diehards and reformers, as these terms are understood in the West: democracy, accountability and the rule of law are not subjects on the agenda.

The argument is between Deng Xiaoping and his supporters, who believe that Marxism must be ditched to save Leninism, the techniques of capitalism brought to the rescue of communism; and those, championed by Chen Yun, who fear that communism cannot survive the demise of central planning and party micro-management of China's economy.

Viewed from booming Guangdong to the

south, the outcome might appear to have been decided regardless of what happens in Peking. Rarely has the saying: "Heaven is high, and the emperor is far away" seemed more pertinent than in today's China. Half of industrial output is already free of central party control. Even within the party, provincial leaders increasingly ignore instructions from Peking.

Deng Xiaoping's unexpected trip to Guangdong last January dramatically boosted confidence in his drive for economic reforms. It also revealed, however, the extreme sensitivities in the region to the ideological temperature in Peking. Mr Deng's visit went unreported in the official press for two months — a fact underlining the strength of his opponents.

Last week, the party confirmed that Zhao Ziyang, the successor Mr Deng picked at the last party congress in 1987, remains in post-Tiananmen disgrace: the wounds of popular dissent then opened in the leadership have not yet healed. This congress is likely to commit the party to his strategy of holding on to power by generating prosperity, and promote men he trusts to carry it out. Longer term, the contradictions between a closed, despotic political system and an open economy may prove Chen Yun right. Then, when the party's monopoly is at risk, the real succession struggle will begin: well within 100 years, but after Mr Deng's death.

The extraordinary success of his economic reforms cannot mask his failure to bequeath China more reliable guides to the future than the arbitrary patterns of soothsayers' bones. It is a failure inherent in his defence of totalitarianism.

## THE START OF NEW TIMES

■ Why we now look a little different

Today, as many readers will already have noted, we are making some changes to *The Times*. Such rearrangements in the past have been accompanied by an explanation in this column; today's decisions are allowed no exception to that rule of courtesy.

The guiding principle is that *The Times* should do most what it does best — reporting and analysing and offering opinion. The weekday paper will be constructed in two sections instead of three, the first being primarily for an expanded service of news and opinion, the second for business, sport and the most comprehensive regular arts pages in our history.

The various developments that begin today range in importance from a small increase in the typsize of the frontpage masthead to a unique service for readers on the back page, from a new position for our concise crossword to greater opportunities for using colour photographs and graphics. All are aimed at making the authority of *The Times* more accessible, at taking less of our reader's time for the assimilation of complex news, and leaving more time to enjoy the finest writers in British journalism.

It is barely more than a quarter of a century since we were describing here why we had put news for the first time on the front page. A year later we were explaining why we had produced the first regular *Times* in two sections. Since then we have continued to try to adapt ourselves to the changes in the lives of those who read us.

In May 1966 the notion of front page news on *The Times* was so revolutionary that it was justified by quotation from one of the fathers of English conservatism, Richard Hooker. "Change is not made without inconvenience, even from worse to better", we reassured those who felt that the heavens might fall if the page one personal columns were pushed into the paper's inner darkness.

Our explanation of page one news was that the "prime purpose of the newspaper is to give the news" and that "it should do so in the quickest and most convenient manner". As in 1966, so in 1992: news, its revelation, reporting and understanding is at our heart.

For most of our readers, the hours free for reading have been reduced since the Sixties by harder work. The need to be informed, to be given interpretations and opinions against a noisy background of electronic media has grown greater. On the back of the

first section this morning sits a new feature in British journalism, a compressed and complete account of how we at *The Times* saw the world of yesterday. Anyone who has only a few early morning minutes can read that page and be confident of knowing the main elements from the news, arts, business and sports sections, a summary of our columnist's views, our own views and, even, other newspapers' summarised opinions.

On the first of Monday's second section begins an expanded sports service. On the first day of the week the sports writers of *The Times* will regularly have more ground on which to perform than ever before.

Our arts writers will also have their own broader canvas every day. Because of shortened deadlines the tradition of overnight reviewing of theatre, music and opera first nights in later editions can be resumed. Serious treatment of events requires more than the best words; busy readers require the best graphic art, the clearest statistical tables to tell a story at a glance. The new structure of *The Times* gives its journalists the best opportunity to meet that challenge.

The use of colour in newspapers has long been controversial. For a few years in the 1970s, until the printers tired of the idea, we used a red masthead to mark public holidays. Before the first world war *The Times* offered pioneering colour-covered special supplements.

Newspapers throughout the world have been experimenting in recent years with the use of colour for news photography. Although the results have occasionally resembled a sparsely filled album of third-world stamps, progress has been fast. Colour need no longer be just a way of attracting fickle eyes. For graphicists and photographers the opportunity to use colour is as important as is the choice of words and type for writers. The new format of *The Times* permits the maximum use of colour.

All these changes are aimed at improving *The Times* and attracting more readers. We believe that we are adapting ourselves today for our most loyal readers, for those who have not yet considered reading us regularly and for those who have left us and are wondering whether to return. We are concentrating on our core strength and purpose. If we did not want more people to share that purpose, it would not be worthwhile making any changes at all.

## VOYAGE OF SELF-DISCOVERY

■ Stop knocking Christopher Columbus

On this day five centuries ago, the man whom English-speakers call Christopher Columbus stepped ashore on one of the Bahamas, called Guanahani by the natives. That is one of the few sure facts about his career. When he set sail he did not know where he was going. When he arrived he did not know where he was. And when he got back, he did not know where he had been.

Columbus did not discover the New World. The native Americans had started to get there, crossing the ice bridges at the top of the world, since 30,000 BC. Other explorers from Europe anticipated him, certainly the Vikings, probably cod-fishermen out of Bristol and, for those who take their history saccharined with romance rather than cooled by evidence, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Romans, and St Brendan in his leather coracle.

But the arrival of Columbus symbolises one of the turning-points in history, when the skills and ambitions of Europe met the wealth and boundless new frontiers of the Americas. Crossing the Atlantic was one

all that small to the sea-sick and terrified sailors who not seen land since August 3), but it really was one giant leap for mankind.

Modern revisionist historians have tried to portray Columbus as the original politically incorrect man, responsible for everything that has gone wrong in the Americas in the past 500 years. As a consequence of his arrival, it is said that the native American tribes were subjugated and destroyed. Africans were enslaved, and the New World was defiled and despoiled.

There are indeed heavy bills on the debit side. But the balance is overwhelmingly for the good. Three times already this century the New World has come to rescue the Old from its invertebrate tendency to destruction, and tyranny. From little things such as the potato and maple syrup, jeans and the film, the samba and jazz, to great things such as the extravagant notion that men of all races and colours are created equal and born free, and that people should be free to govern themselves, the world is still vastly in the debt of the Americas. Columbus discovered the

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Peanington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Options that confront Chancellor in his trial by TV

From Mr Simon Briscoe

Sir, The Chancellor faces a trial by television tomorrow, as he fleshes out his post-ERM economic strategy. Whatever he may say, if the new "flexible" policy is to succeed, the event will highlight the need for organisational changes.

As things stand, the Chancellor and a handful of senior advisers determine economic policy in secrecy. The Budget is then launched and voted through Parliament, effectively on the nod. The judgment might be right for one or two years, but no small group can be consistently right.

In addition, the current arrangements all but guarantee the confrontational attitude and unpleasant personal attacks we have recently seen.

The remedy is not, as some have suggested, to have a group of non-Treasury economists acting as an advisory panel. This would be just as secretive and the benefit would be limited, as no doubt only "acceptable" economists would be invited to participate. Nor, it seems to me, is an independent Bank of England a sufficient solution.

Rather, the whole process of economic management needs to be opened up. With credibility so low, now is an ideal time to announce the introduction of a "green" budget, analogous to the government's familiar "green" papers.

The Treasury should publish its budgetary forecast, economic targets and proposed policy changes in the autumn. An open debate could follow, when any person or organisation could make their representation.

The ultimate judgement and the detailed contents would, as now, be up to the Treasury; and the Treasury should, of course, maintain complete discretion and secrecy over the operation of policy, including the timing of interest rate changes.

Political slant would thus inevitably remain. But policy would be based upon a clearer view of the world, the position of Chancellor would be demystified, and the influence of a few senior officials would be significantly reduced.

Yours faithfully,  
SIMON BRISCOE  
(Senior UK economist,  
Greenwell Morgan,  
10 Lower Thames Street, EC3,  
October 11.

From Mr John Heykoop

Sir, Mr Lamont's inflation targets are laudable, but leave two questions unanswered.

First, is it really credible that the government would raise interest rates in the middle of a recession, just because inflation looked like moving above the 1-4 per cent target range (report, October 9)? We all remember Mr Lamont saying that he would not hesitate to raise interest rates to defend sterling's position in the ERM, a policy the government was forced to abandon as soon as the market tested its resolve. With Mr Lamont's credibility gone, the market will be looking for deeds, not words.

Secondly, what is the government going to do to get the country out of recession? Having rejected the inflationary, low-interest "dash for growth" option (rightly in my view), it must as a matter of urgency formulate a new fiscal policy.

There is no reason why an imaginative policy that helps key sectors of industry to pull out of recession could not be fully compatible with a low-inflation monetary policy.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HEYKOOP,  
The Well House, Harborough Hill,  
West Chilton, West Sussex,  
October 9.

From the Reverend B. M. Blackshaw

Sir, I was shocked and saddened by the speech of Mr Peter Lilley at the Conservative conference ("Lilley targets scrumpers" (report, October 8)).

To make such strident theatre of an abuse of our welfare system is to ignore the sensitivities and plight of countless people who, as a result of the misconceived economic policies pursued by this government, are genuinely placed in debilitating financial circumstances from which there is no immediate escape.

Mr Lilley did, of course, state that it is those in genuine need that he seeks to help, but must not the government take considerable responsibility for harsh circumstances facing the poor in our society which it has exacerbated? Is the public thought to be so gullible that it cannot discern that Mr Lilley's moralising stance merely seeks to deflect accusations from the body which is truly culpable?

Yours faithfully,  
B. M. BLACKSHAW,  
White Lodge, Northgate,  
Northwood, Middlesex.

### Water under London

From Mr W. J. Alexander

Sir, Letters from Sir Alan Muir Wood (September 26) and Professor David Rhind (October 5) prompt me to respond on behalf of Thames Water.

For many years (at least 25 to my knowledge), the geotechnics group of Thames Water and the British Geological Survey (BGS) have been co-operating to improve our understanding of the geology of London. On many occasions we have been able to provide the BGS with soil samples and borehole data, at no cost, and this general policy has not changed since water privatisation.

Thames Water recently commissioned a study from Mott, MacDonald and were able to provide a wealth of information from our data bank of borehole records. The BGS recently created and launched their Locust (London Computerised Underground and Surface Geology) project, and we look forward to its success.

Both Thames Water and BGS provide data on a commercial basis. Our respective charges are comparable and reasonable in view of the high value of the data.

Yours faithfully,  
BILL ALEXANDER  
(Managing Director),  
Thames Water Utilities,  
Nugent House, Vauxhall Road,  
Reading, Berkshire.

### Rudeness in court

From Lord Shawcross, QC

Sir, I read with interest the article on rudeness in court in yesterday's *Law Times*. I noted that in searching for instances comparable to the strong and justified rebuke which Mr Hartley, QC, had expressed in a recent much-reported libel case, the learned author, having dug up two or three instances in English courts, and occasional ones in the United States, had found nothing comparable in this country during the present century.

This did not surprise me. In the remote past, when I was for many years nominally the leader of the Bar, many QCs were gentlemen. All tried to behave as such, or they would have been quickly corrected by the trial

### Forms of address

From Mr Martin Thomas

Sir, I have always resented the use of first names and false familiarity by strangers at a first meeting (letter, October 8), but this is not the modern way.

Recently, when operating, I was being helped by a young nursing sister whom I addressed as "Sister" in my usual manner. She became upset as she immediately assumed that I could not remember her name and was covering up for this lapse.

obtain between medical staff when at work and, in my experience, patients prefer this. What I call Sister in private afterwards is my own affair, so to speak.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN THOMAS  
(Consultant surgeon),  
St Peter's Hospital,  
Guildford Road, Chertsey, Surrey.

From Mr Hugh Kemp

Sir, As a consultant I have always followed my grandmother's maxim that "familiarity breeds contempt".

From Mrs V. H. Mayman

Sir, In these mean and straitened times, would it not be more appropriate if our representatives met in an abandoned factory, a huge echoing anachronism, and not in the gilded Palace of Westminster, encrusted as it is in legend and glamour, where history wraps its instant cling-film over everything, triumph or disaster, so that in the end all is alike, and equally, all is in vain?

Oh, don't be deceived — this is the home of Hubris, of Vanity, of Privilege: it is not late twentieth century Reality Street.

Already we have Black Wednesday. Black Wednesday? Only Wednesday? Are not all the days black for those who have lost homes, jobs, businesses, their future? And in contrast, their servants having awarded themselves a substantial rise, have "never had it so good".

Perhaps a huge echoing chamber without ceilings, without heating, will inhibit the tribal bayings, the archaic rituals or make them seem absurd.

Yours faithfully,  
VIVIANNE HILDEGARDE MAYMAN,  
8 Kereforth Hall Road,  
Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

From Mr David Harrison

Sir, I have a house in a village in Normandy, a few miles east of Caen. My taxes are less than the community charge I pay here, but the village supports a lively nursery school, the dustbins are emptied twice a week, public places and flower beds are carefully maintained, the streets and pavements are swept and cleaned frequently, public buildings are clean and smartly painted. In Caen itself the streets and pavements in the city centre are washed every night.

A friend of mine says that the answer to this whole question is quite simple: that the British economy, as run by politicians and Whitehall mandarins groomed at Balliol in history or Greats, whereas the French economy is directed by scientists and engineers and is largely divorced from short-term political considerations.

I don't believe the answer can be as simple as this, but it would be enlightening to have an expert view.

Yours sincerely,  
D. HARRISON,  
Baldwin's End Cottage,  
Eton, Windsor, Berkshire.

### Nuclear test ban

From Dr R. S. Pease, FRS

Sir, President Bush has now accepted and signed — albeit reluctantly — a bill banning nuclear test explosions in the US, as anticipated in your report of September 26. This represents a most welcome milestone in reducing the threat to mankind of nuclear war.

Starting with a nine-month moratorium, the ban is to be complete after 1996, provided no other country undertakes nuclear tests. Britain might be allowed three test explosions in the US before this date.

Surely now is the time for our government to reconsider its present policy of expanding the UK nuclear weapons with the Trident missile submarines and nuclear warheads. Rather, could not the substantial resources and highly skilled personnel involved be redeployed into projects for developing the civil infrastructure of this country?

Yours sincerely,  
R. SEBASTIAN PEASE  
(Chairman),  
British Pugwash,  
64A Great Russell Street, WC1.

### Health rationing

From Dr B. Jacobson and Dr A. Bowling

Sir, You are wrong to assert (report, October 1) that attempts to "involve the public" in the debate about health-service rationing in Hackney have failed.

Your report cites a public meeting in Hackney attended by three members of the public. This was only a small part of a much wider consultation exercise with wide-ranging community groups. We have so far interviewed nearly 600 people and await the findings of a postal survey of 450 people.

Yours sincerely,  
B. JACOBSON  
(Director of Public Health),  
ANN BOWLING  
(Head, Needs Assessment Unit),  
Department of Public Health,  
City and Hackney Health Authority,  
St Leonard's, Nuttall Street,  
Kingsland Road, N1,  
October 5.

### Planning threat to Wordsworth view

From Professor Malcolm Bradbury and others

Sir, We write to alert your readers to an immediate threat to Wordsworth's birthplace.

This handsome mid-18th century house in the main street of Cockermouth, Cumbria, was the poet's home until he was 13. His childhood there gave him many happy memories, some of them shared with his sister Dorothy. In his greatest poem, *The Prelude*, he recalls the river Derwent running past the wall at the end of his father's garden, where "the fairest of all rivers" had blended "with my nurse's song" and had made "ceaseless music through the night and day" and "flowed along my dreams".

Today, Wordsworth's house is a place of pilgrimage for visitors from all over the world and the view from that same raised terrace at the end of the garden, mentioned in the first book of *The Prelude*, remains open and mercifully unspoiled.

This view is now threatened by a planning application for consent to the construction of 15 feet away of a "function room" in the garden of an adjacent public house. This immense building, rising to 26 ft high and quite out of scale with its neighbours, will loom over Wordsworth's terrace walk, blot out part of the view of the river and change for ever a quiet corner of a country town hallowed by its association with the formative years of one of our greatest poets.

Wordsworth's house was bought with money raised by public appeal and since 1938 has been owned by the National Trust. We are dismayed to learn that half a century on, this enlightened initiative might be compromised by a scheme which we understand is unobjectionable to Allerdale District Council on planning grounds. The application must be refused.

Yours faithfully,  
MALCOLM BRADBURY,  
MELVYN BRAGG,  
PAMELA EGREMONT,  
ANTONIA FRASER,  
TED HUGHES,  
JOHN R. MURRAY,  
NIGEL NICOLSON,  
JOHN JULIUS NORWICH,  
SUE TOWNSEND,  
JONATHAN WORDSWORTH,  
ROBERT WOOD  
(Director, Wordsworth Trust),  
c/o University of East Anglia,  
School of English and American Studies,  
Norwich, Norfolk.

### Unit fines and the press

From the President of the Association of Magisterial Officers

Sir, It was interesting to see the comments of Mr Peter Vaines (letter, October 1) on the day on which the unit fine took its first hesitant step into the judicial system of this country. The unit fine is, of course, a new concept in punishment, reflecting the "just deserts" for an offender's crime.

If the system is to be both effective and acceptable, the public will have to get used to thinking in units, in the same way that magistrates will, and not in relative values of a fine. Thus the example quoted by Mr Vaines might be based on ten units in one case, where the offender has a disposable weekly income (DWI) of £70, and 20 units in a more serious case, where the offender has a DWI of £35.

At the other end of the scale, of course, those on the lower income levels are likely to receive fines at a much lower financial level. Thus, in the example cited, the offender with the minimum DWI of £4 in the ten-unit case would receive a fine of £40 and in the 20-unit case, of £80.

The system, to be effective, will also require accurate reporting by the media, using unit comparisons and not just sensationalistic comparisons of the amounts of fines.

The members of this association will be the ones to bear the brunt of the public's misunderstanding of the system in its initial stages. That understanding will be eased by the proper reporting of cases, using unit comparisons and not just monetary values.

Yours faithfully,  
R. J. CLARKSON  
(President, Association of Magisterial Officers),  
The Court House,  
Bradford Road,  
Bingley, West Yorkshire.

### A blow for cyclists

From Mrs Peter Hobson

Sir, When I used to cycle to work through central London I found that a rolled-up copy of *The Times* was a most effective weapon against cars and taxis which came too close ("Drivers berate two-wheeled terrors", report, October 2).

One sharp and resounding blow to the side of the offending vehicle would cause maximum consternation and minimum damage. This also improved one's tennis backhand drive.

Yours faithfully,  
AMANDA HOBSON,  
Giggleswick School,  
Settle, North Yorkshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be











## Value for money on new horizons

Even in recession, moving the company out of expensive city offices can make financial sense, Rodney Hobson reports

**T**ighter times for industry and commerce have brought new challenges for the relocation experts but work is still there for those who can provide value for money. Now that the days of easy pickings with mass moves across country have disappeared, the accent is on demonstrating how the relocation industry can save money for its customers.

Relocation has long been associated with moving companies — and perhaps more especially civil servants — from high-cost London sites to the regions. Jones Lang Wootton, the property consultant that produces an annual report on decentralisation, estimates that moves out of London are contracting at about 10 per cent a year after peaking in 1990-1. It says: "The decline in central London levels and changes in other factors that affect decentralisation are likely to result in lower levels of moves in the short term."

Nor are other city centres likely to provide a compensatory factor. As Mike Spencer, sales and marketing director at Nationwide Relocation, says: "No other city is as clearly defined as central London. In places such as Birmingham and Manchester there is spare office space in the centre."

Spare space has become a feature of London, too. Mr Spencer says: "Two years or even 18 months ago, a large volume of businesses were moving their back offices out of London, especially from the City. That trend has slowed down. Companies that could easily do it have done it. Those that could get out easily have gone."

"Companies in premises that are adequate are going to sit it out until they see how the economy is going. People are not going to invest unless they have to."

The problems of relocating were typified by Computer People, which has successfully disposed of two leases in the West End of London and moved into less costly premises in London's Docklands.

Richard Pinder, the company's

finance director, says: "The company grew very quickly during the 1980s. Just before the recession started, we decided that if we were to keep our competitive edge it did not make sense to have the bulk of our management and the back-office staff in central London."

The company found that the only way to get out was to find another tenant. That proved comparatively easy for the first building but the landlord on the second building demanded too high a price to release it from the lease.

Computer People got round the problem by finding not only a new tenant but also a new owner to buy the building. It finally paid the equivalent of two years and two months' rent to be released from the remaining nineteen and a half years on the lease.

The company moved 65 staff and now occupies slightly more

space having to consider the commercial as well as the human aspects of the move.

John Carolan at Black Horse Relocation adds: "It is not easy to say that cost should come before people or vice versa because the two are closely related. If a company gets the human side wrong, the cost of the move will go up."

Relocation experts acknowledge that companies are not so free with finance packages to help staff to move home. Where 100 per cent of bridging finance was formerly provided, a cap of 95 per cent or less is now common.

Mr Spencer says: "Whatever the difficulties, companies are not changing their minds on the fundamental decision to move."

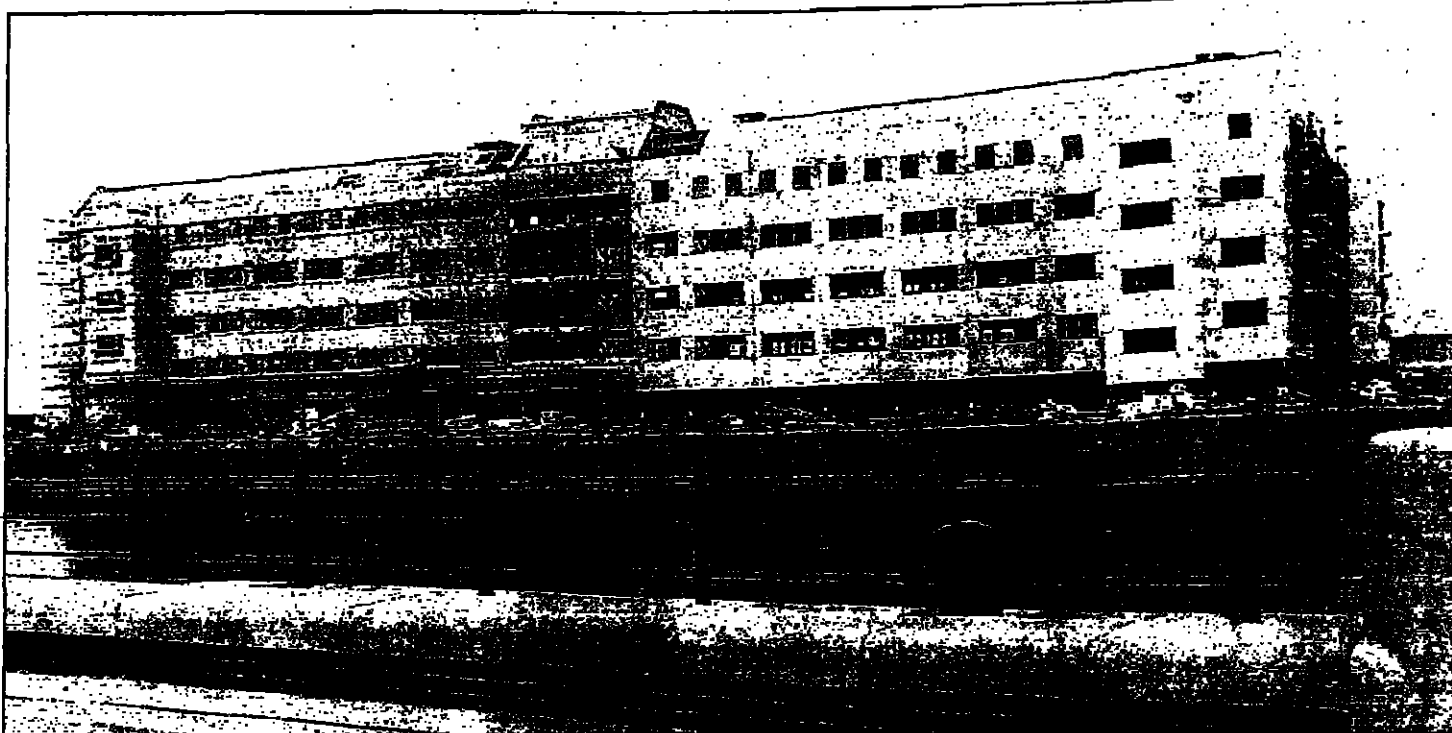
Optimists believe there is still some scope for moving financial institutions out of central London. They see a crumbling of the attitude that dealers have to meet their peers face to face. With dealing increasingly concentrated on the computer terminal that view is rapidly becoming outdated.

New health and safety regulations emanating from Westminster and Brussels are encouraging moves to call in experts. A whole batch of regulations is taking effect this year, and the spread of computer equipment has made electrical safety an important issue in occupying new premises.

The relocation industry is also hoping that there is a pent-up demand being held back behind the floodgates of recession.

The future of London's Docklands is seen as an important factor. Much of the decentralisation of the civil service has been completed. But if the Jubilee Tube line extension really does go ahead at last, there will be a double benefit for the relocation industry.

The private investment that the government is insisting on will be dependent on transfers from Whitehall to Canary Wharf. And an improvement in transport links will remove the major objection of private businesses fearing that they would be making a leap into limbo.



Job creation: the relocation of 300 staff from HM Customs & Excise to Liverpool (above) will result in 1,100 new jobs in the area

## A change of air for all reasons

**P**roperty costs were traditionally the most important factor prompting companies to relocate — particularly those moving out of central London. Now, however, the price differential has narrowed, and a range of other reasons is being cited by companies deciding to move.

While accessibility is crucial in the choice of a location, says Jean Crawford of Jones Lang Wootton, the property consultancy, other important issues include the availability of good quality staff and the quality of life.

In a survey of companies decentralising between 1990 and 1993, Jones Lang Wootton found that the most frequently specified reason was location of the companies' other premises — accounting for some 20 per cent of all reasons given. Almost as important (18 per cent) was the availability of suitable accommodation and labour (15 per cent).

Moves happening now are likely to have been planned some years ago, so these reasons tend to reflect the main issues during the economic expansion of the mid to late 1980s. It appears that the twin problems of an organisation's ability to dispose of its existing space, and on what terms, and the possibility that falling house prices have left employees with homes worth less than their borrowings are causing a number of relocations to be rebought.

Mike Strong of Richard Ellis, the firm of surveyors, points out that the results of the equation between

moving costs and the longer term value of a move are changing all the time in the present economic climate. However, Ms Crawford points out, some organisations are still able to balance the one-off relocation cost against long-term cost savings.

While London rents may have dropped, she says, costs still matter. For instance, London running costs, including service charges and rates, can add 30 per cent to overall occupancy costs. And there remains a 20 per cent differential between

sophisticated selling campaigns from all directions, but mainly from the North and West.

Newcastle upon Tyne and its surrounding areas have enjoyed some success over the past two or three years in attracting British-based private and public sector organisations and in bringing in overseas companies, particularly the Japanese.

The Merseyside Development Corporation, the United Kingdom's first urban development corporation, was established in

owned companies. Employment in manufacturing in the principalities has grown by 3.2 per cent since 1987, compared with a fall of 5.8 per cent in the UK as a whole.

In Scotland, a greater part of inward investment comes not from the rest of the UK but from abroad. Scotland's two development agencies, Scottish Enterprise National and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, operate through a network of 22 local enterprise companies. The overseas marketing arm, Locate in Scotland, is a joint venture between Scottish Enterprise National and the Scottish Office, and its brief includes selling Scotland to other parts of the UK. Scotland's selling points include the quality of its workforce, educational standards, and its existing electronics infrastructure and communications and distribution networks.

However, no area offers more generous incentives than Northern Ireland. Capital incentives include cash grants of as much as 50 per cent in areas of high unemployment, rent grants of as much as 100 per cent for five years, 100 per cent industrial derating and grants of up to 50 per cent in cash for machinery and equipment. That is just the start; other benefits include new job related grants, interest relief on loans, training grants, grants to attract top management and even grants towards marketing costs. There are also continuing tax advantages in favourable depreciation allowances.

ANNE STEADMAN

## Organisations are still able to balance the one-off relocation cost against long-term cost savings

salary costs in the North East and the South East. In addition, staff turnover tends to be much lower outside London.

In the early 1980s companies deciding to move were generally not prepared to consider areas beyond the South East. Although the South East still takes its share of relocations, thinking has changed. Jones Lang Wootton's research shows a growing trend towards companies being prepared to move much further distances.

At the same time, the marketing efforts of the various regional bodies have intensified. Any company known to be in the relocation market will find itself the target of

1981. In recent years it has attracted over £1,125 million of investment from big companies, including North West Water, General Motors, British Rail and Barclays Bank. The relocation of HM Customs & Excise to a new headquarters close to the refurbished Albert Dock, the spectacular setting for the recent Tall Ships events, will result in 1,100 new jobs, with 300 staff being relocated to Merseyside.

Since its inception in 1976, the Welsh Development Agency has been extremely successful in attracting foreign companies. Now, more than one in five Welsh manufacturing works is operated by foreign-

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# Make the best of the moving experience

**P**ay us and save money is the selling pitch of the relocation consultants. Rodney Hobson writes. Alan Jordan, business development manager at First Move Facilities Management, says: "In the past, companies could afford to relocate into a property and organise their workspace into exact copies of the old location, so losing a huge opportunity. No time was invested in considering such issues as increased utilisation of space, or energy efficiency."

"This philosophy is rapidly changing in the grip of recession, with companies realising the importance of benefiting financially from a move. Specialist companies take into consideration all the relocating company's needs, from how much space it really needs down almost to how many pints of milk it needs delivered."

John Carolan, managing director of Black Horse Relocation, says: "Every company relocation has its own positive and negative features. It is important that a company choose its advisers early on. Experience in relocation is not commonly found in companies, and mistakes at this stage can prove costly."

Relocation experts suggest that the starting point for any company considering a move should be to

form a steering committee of a small number of key people, who should include a senior manager of human resources. They say that no one person can effectively manage all the issues that should be considered. Mr Jordan says: "We have found that more and more companies, particularly smaller and medium size organisations, are realising that relocation is a whole package, the cost-effective movement of people and equipment. They acknowledge that if the move goes wrong it can have catastrophic effects on the company."

Mr Carolan says there are basic guidelines for would-be movers. They should establish the objectives of the relocation based on reasons for deciding to move and the benefits the company expects to enjoy.

The resources that will be needed at the new location — both human and technical — should be listed and put in order of priority. Support needed during the move and the likely costs should be assessed, and a budget, including contingency funds, should be established. Mr Carolan says: "Setting a budget to

Changing offices should be seen as an opportunity to reassess the way a business runs, and how well its staff's needs are met



Who goes where? The objectives of relocation should be kept carefully in view, says John Carolan

meet the relocation targets is difficult. Incentives are not always the answer to getting people to move. People tend to look first at the problems and then the opportunity, so it is important that issues likely to

cause concern are anticipated and solutions put in place as soon as possible. However, it is not possible to anticipate everything that might happen, and we usually recommend the creation of a contingency

fund to allow some flexibility where a real need is identified. Hidden costs may emerge, especially if a firm tries to do too much at once. "Many companies also underestimate the potential legal

pitfalls relating to property, including the disposal of the old lease and the signing of the new one, and suffer financially as a result."

A timetable should be prepared and an information programme for staff planned. Correct timing of the announcement of the move is vital. Experts say that the company should not allow news of its proposed move to leak out before it has developed a strategy and — particularly — a policy for its employees.

It is usually sensible for key employees to be briefed first to reinforce in them a belief that they are important to the company and to outline the support that they will receive. They may also be needed to help spread information about the move, which means that their support is vital.

News should be given to the rest of the staff face to face, perhaps at a group presentation. Experts say this should be well rehearsed, and confrontation should be avoided. The meetings should be conducted in a friendly and professional manner.

Once an announcement is made, support from the workforce will be

achieved only if the information given to employees is believed and trusted, since the relocation will have a huge impact on the lives of employees and their families. Companies easily forget that a decision on whether to move with the company will rarely be taken by the employee alone. It will involve family and perhaps even friends.

Accordingly, says Mr Carolan, "involving the family will help to break down possible resistance, and will certainly help to prevent resentment. Failure to do this is likely to exacerbate fears and create a feeling of isolation. All too often the family is the unheard voice of discontent. It is equally important that there should be no doubt about the intention to move. A forthright approach clearly laying out what is going to happen and when will nearly always prove beneficial."

Black Horse measures the success of any move by the number of key employees, together with their support staff, who make the move, and by the level of disruption to the company caused by relocation.

Mr Jordan sums up: "Moving the company is an ideal time to introduce new policies and plan for the future. If it is not regarded as such, the project will realise only half of its potential benefits."

"Commercial relocation should be seen as a catalyst."

## Whitehall leads the exodus from London



The British Council's Manchester office

**T**wo sectors dominate the relocation field. The government and the financial services industry account for half of all moves under way or planned.

Since 1979 the government has provided a consistent impetus, its political aim of boosting local economies ranking alongside operational needs. Black Horse Relocation estimates that 40 per cent of posts are filled locally. More than 18,000 posts were due to have moved out of London by 1995. That figure is, however, unlikely to be achieved. For, with central targets for dispersal no longer being set, individual departments are proving vulnerable to worsening economic conditions.

The most spectacular casualty has been last month's cancellation of the Prison Service's move to Derby, with the Home Office diverting the "tens of millions of pounds" saved to prison refurbishment and police re-equipment. Again, a question mark hangs over the proposed re-

location to Nottingham by English Heritage, which is now considering options closer to its present London base. Nottingham will, however, benefit from the decanting of 1,800 Inland Revenue posts.

There are also committed moves to Leeds and the North West. In the former, the NHS's management executive and the social security department's benefits agency are midway through a relocation into Quarry House, on the site of the former Quarry Hill flats, which will house 2,000 staff. The Quarry House project, won in a design/build competition by NorWest Holst and the architects BDP, aims at providing a "traditional building with strong civic presence".

Greater Manchester has secured the new British Council HQ, opened in July at Grand Island, and a Customs & Excise base at Salford's Ralli Quays. On Merseyside, the 250,000 sq ft VAT headquarters for 1,700 staff is

nearing completion in Liverpool's Queen's Graving Dock.

The largest single move at present will take 3,000 staff of the procurement executive of the defence ministry to Filton, north of Bristol.

Financial services are necessarily more conservative in their locational policies. It is debatable whether they would have decentralised on their present scale had falling City rents been anticipated in the 1980s, although Michael Warner of Richard Ellis points to growing intolerance of commuting.

**C**ompanies involved in decentralisation have mainly headed west from London. The Bank of England has taken its registrar's department to a new 150,000 sq ft building in Gloucester, where two thirds of the 450 staff have been locally recruited. Eagle Star now has over 3,000 of its 9,000 staff based in Cheltenham, the new headquarters of the company's gen-

eral business division. Lloyds Bank's move of its retail banking arm to Bristol is due for completion next year, with a 200,000 sq ft new building on a waterfront location at Canons Marsh, replacing some 30 scattered London sites. Lloyds chose Bristol because it was an established financial centre and had a large enough labour pool for local recruitment (other recent and current moves include NatWest Life, Sun Life and Price Waterhouse).

Further west, Cardiff is becoming a recognised financial destination. The Prudential and NMC Credit Insurance are among recent commitments to Cardiff Bay, Wales's only development corporation. The subsidiary axis is towards the Midlands. Barclays chose Coventry to relocate eight departments from London, where its Lombard Street HQ is being redeveloped for re-occupation in 1994.

DAVID CRAWFORD

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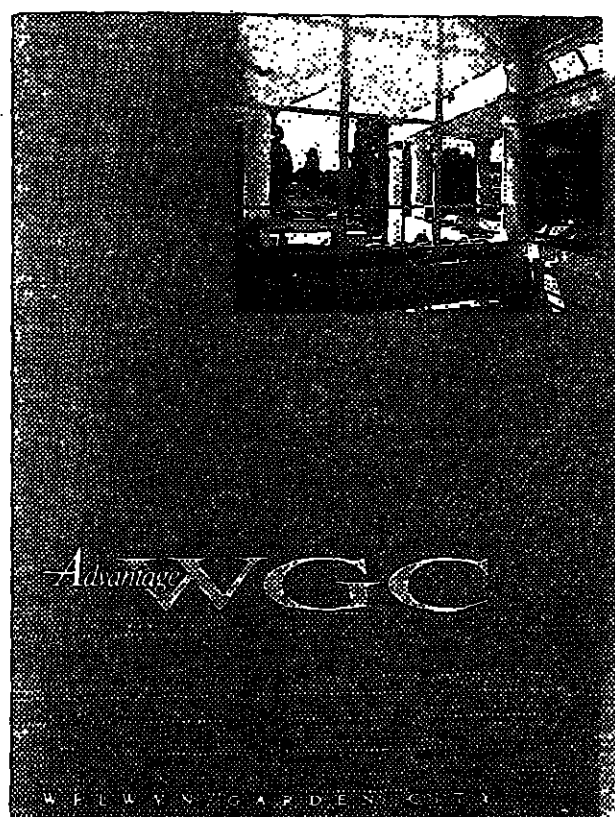
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# Smiles after travelling miles



Quality of life. Jim and Ann Webster at their new home

**R**elocation: the word sends shivers down the spines of workers who are told that their company is on the move. Many companies, however, have now proved that they should be shivers of delight and anticipation rather than of foreboding.

For Pearl Assurance the decision was a simple one. The company had to bite the bullet and move out of its London office in Holborn, where it had been for 100 years. It had become overcrowded and the magnificent limestone building was ill-equipped to allow the installation of office technology that companies such as Pearl have been developing in the past ten years.

The directors looked at Bristol and Bournemouth, both centres for the financial services business. However, Peterborough, in Cambridgeshire, offered a greenfield site close to the A1 and with London only 46 minutes away by rail. It also had a development commission dedicated to attracting new business and a large number of new homes

## Companies are now swallowing hard, relocating and reaping the benefits. David Young reports

available as well as highly regarded education facilities in the city and surrounding villages.

By choosing Peterborough Pearl was able to design its own building. Office blocks were available at attractive rents in places such as Milton Keynes, but the company wanted to own its freehold and to build to remarkably high standards. "Our first office had lasted us for 100 years," a company spokesman says. "This one will last for at least another 100 years."

The process of persuading staff to move north was not without its problems. The company found that in a high turnover business such as assurance staff were in demand at the offices of its competitors throughout London but, by organising a series of weekend visits to the town and the Peterborough area, managed to persuade 20 per cent of its highly trained staff — more than 500 — to move to Peterborough over a three-year period starting in 1987.

Jim Webster, a company auditor, was one of those. Although at the time he was not a Pearl Assurance employee. He and his wife Ann had worked together at Pearl in the 1960s and both left. She to look after their two sons and he to start a 17-year spell with the Inland Revenue.

The couple lived in Sutton

and Cheam and Mr Webster was a stalwart of the local athletics club. Then, in the late 1980s, Mrs Webster met some former colleagues and, with their sons grown up, was talked into returning to Pearl.

Shortly after she rejoined the company, however, the announcement of the move to Peterborough was made and she and her husband went to one of the company-organised weekends in the city.

**M**r Webster says: "When we arrived in Peterborough the first people I bumped into were two old colleagues who had made the move already. What they told me sounded very attractive. I rejoined the company and for a while was commuting back into central London and then later up to Peterborough."

The couple have changed their four-bedroom detached suburban home for a 350-year-old stone cottage with lawns running down to the River Nene.

Mr Webster says: "I think it is important for young people to work in London at some point in their lives. There is a spontaneity and liveliness about working in London which you miss when you come to an area like this. However, living here has other benefits and working condi-

tions are probably among the best in the country."

His colleague, Janette Eastoe, also decided to move north after a visit and in the past three years has swapped her 75-minute commute from Dartford, Kent, into central London for a 10-minute drive, and her one-bedroomed flat for a three-bedroomed detached house.

She says: "Initially I was not planning to come north but when I came here and met some colleagues who had made the move, I saw that there were some tremendous advantages. I have since got married and my parents themselves have moved up here. We can be back in London very quickly so we didn't have to lose any of our old friends."

Sokkia, a Japanese company which has a third share of the world market for surveying equipment, was bulging at the seams at its office and warehouse in Crawley and a rent review was imminent.

The company was faced with building a new office on a former waste tip in the area for £700,000 but it eventually decided to move north to Crewe, where for £200,000 it was able to have a purpose-built site in a rural setting.

Sokkia also chose Crewe because of its easy access to Manchester Airport with its highly developed air freight network into Europe and its road and rail access. The company has also been able to gain access to test facilities so that its products could gain BS5750 quality standards, the first British surveying company to be able to do so.

## Case study: Barclays' computing

### When you go, go smoothly

**F**ew moves are quite so challenging as relocating a high-technology operation. Keeping computers up and running is particularly important for financial institutions providing on-line banking facilities for customers, but it is also vital for many other businesses. Even low-technology businesses have telecommunications systems that must be kept going.

Most companies deal with highly sensitive commercial information, which must be kept secure during a move.

Bruce Hotter, the managing director of Barclays Computer Operation, knows all about such moves. After successfully moving the bank's foreign exchange operation from Fenchurch Street in the City, he has had the pleasure of seeing his own handiwork on television recently.

The new dealing room at Royal Mint Court at Tower Hill, London, featured on several news bulletins during the staging crisis.

Like many banks, Barclays realised that a drastic decision was needed in its computer division. Some rivals decided to contract out computer management so that they could concentrate on banking activities, but Barclays took the view that if the computer side could pay its way, it was worth doing.

Mr Hotter says: "We started to consider making the computer division into a profit centre at the beginning of last year. We made a decision to invest heavily in the division, not only to drive costs down but to turn it into something that would add to the profits at

the bank. Now we have to go out and win profitable business." The computer division was accordingly made to stand alone, and relocated to the new premises in March.

Mr Hotter says there is a considerable amount of work involved in moving a high-tech operation — whether a company is relocating a number of offices into one central building or taking its operations out of a city centre into a business park.

Most relocating businesses want to complete the move in a weekend, Mr Hotter explains. "Most offices have some technology. There is a telephone on every desk and most desks have a computer terminal and other bits and pieces."

Indeed, when businesses sit down to plan a move, they often do not know precisely what technology they have, since the office has grown over a number of years with bits added on here and there.

Computers often outgrow available space. The central computer was often originally squeezed into a back room, but over the years, additions will have spilled out into adjoining rooms, pushing desks aside. The result may waste space and money.

Barclays' own move to Royal Mint Court was good practice for coping with the outside world. The project involved 12 months of preparatory work and planning. Some back-up staff could be moved over three weekends, but the dealers could not be split. They all had to switch over the same weekend — and they did.

RODNEY HOBSON



New deal: Royal Mint Court

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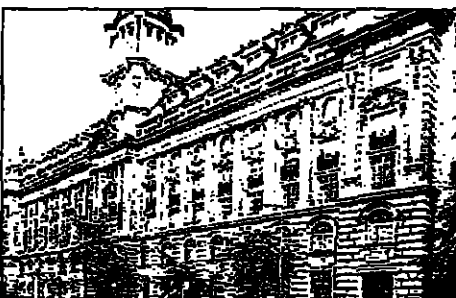
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Both century-makers? Pearl's London building (left) and its new Peterborough site



## New homes for old

**M**oving house, even if it is just around the corner, is a stressful experience even at the best of times. Anne Steadman writes. Moving from one end of the country to the other, uprooting family, changing the whole pattern of work and lifestyle can be very stressful indeed for employees asked to relocate.

Yet, with careful handling the impact of a move on a company's employees need not be negative, and disruption can be minimised.

Nissan, the Japanese car manufacturer, chose the Cranfield Technology Park attached to the Cranfield Institute of Technology, in Bedfordshire, for one of its two new European technology centres (the other is at its Sunderland base). The move to the new award-winning building meant relocation for

### Care must be taken to prepare staff and families for a move

about 200 Nissan staff in a two-part exercise.

The first group of about 85 people had previously been employed by the group's manufacturing company in the northeast of England and, against the general relocating trend, were moving south. The remaining 120 or so were recruited after the relocation plans had been set in train.

Nissan general manager Ian Barrow, then the personnel manager charged with responsibility for the move, drew up and circulated a questionnaire to all staff in

order to establish their main concerns. The staff's prime considerations were education, housing and employment prospects for spouses.

Armed with this knowledge, and with the aim of addressing potential difficulties, Nissan retained the services of both an educational consultant, who was available to all staff and their families, and an employment counsellor. Well aware of the price differential between housing in the north and southeast of England, the company used Black Horse's home sale guarantee service and implemented a "like for like" mortgage assistance scheme.

All Nissan's relocated staff are now settled in new homes, none has left the company, and it is considered that the efforts made to anticipate and alleviate potential stress were well worth it.

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# A capital decision

Businesses are moving into London again. David Crawford discovers why

London is again a possibility for relocation. A recent London Chamber of Commerce & Industry survey found that 12 per cent of sizeable companies contemplating a move are considering the capital as an option, and agents are no longer automatically excluding the City and West End on grounds of cost.

Healey & Baker's PRIME index shows prime rents in the City, where there are seven million sq ft of good-quality space, are only 37 per cent dearer than in 1985. In comparison, those in the Midlands have risen more than three times and in the South West and North West more than two and a half times.

The gap between central London's £30-£40 a sq ft and about £20 in the suburbs, £22 in central Manchester or £18 in Bristol is no longer unbridgeable, especially seen in total cost terms. Jones Lang Wootton puts the dislocation cost of a move within London at less than £5 a sq ft compared with up to £148 for a decentralisation. Migrations within London have always been the norm when every space requirement of 5,000 sq ft or more is taken into account. They are now becoming increasingly common for larger-scale moves.

This is partly in response to the pull of Docklands, where 13.2 million sq ft of office space have been developed since 1981. For Docklands, where availability is 40 per cent and rents are £12.50 a sq ft for prime space, the main deterrent has been accessibility pending a go-ahead for the Jubilee line extension. Docklands arrivals this



Docklands winner: the 150,000 sq ft of South Quay II, the Isle of Dogs, have been let

summer include Endsleigh Insurance Services, taking 24,000 sq ft at South Quay II for its regional office. Long-planned moves being implemented by Crédit Suisse First Boston, Texaco and the advertising agency D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles are to bring 3,300 more staff into Canary Wharf this year.

The highest-profile move, if confirmed, will be that of the environment department with 1,700 civil servants. The cost of repairs to the department's 1960s headquarters in Marsham Street, Westminster, which also houses transport department staff, is considered too high. The environment department's search has been concentrated on Docklands, where it could need 350,000 sq ft.

The prospect has aroused a strong reaction from the Westminster Property Owners Association. Iain Walters, the association's chairman, expresses fears for the Victoria office market, where two million sq ft are government-occupied. Much of this needs modernisation or redevelopment, neither of which is likely in today's climate.

There is now the first evidence of re-relocations from outside London back to the centre. The most spectacular is the insurance group Century Life's decision to take a lease on Goldman Sachs's 60,000 sq ft former headquarters in Old Bailey, a coup for the joint agents, Savills Commercial and Herring Baker Harris.

This involves moving about 200 jobs from the NEL Britannia premises in Dorking, Surrey, acquired by Century Life in February, 150 from the offices of a later acquisition in west London, and 40 from Century Life's previous headquarters in Clerkenwell, central London. The search covered about 30 sites, including a new building on the M25 which proved less competitive than the City.

Others thinking the same way include McGurran Solihull, from Croydon, Surrey, which has added the West End to its search for 12,000 sq ft, and the financial

services specialist Acuma, in Egham, Surrey, which has included London midtown in its quest for 9,500 sq ft.

Areas outside London could also benefit from this centripetal trend. Knight Frank & Rutley recently handled a relocation for the financial services specialist UFB Humberdyde. The company, previously dispersed between York and Basingstoke, Hampshire, chose the South rather than the North and concentrated its operations in a business park at Hook, Hampshire.

To sustain this momentum, London needs to do more to help itself. The London Chamber of Commerce & Industry concludes in its report *Business on the Move*: "London is suffering from the lack of a co-ordinated promotional effort to draw attention to the advantages of living and working in the capital."

Inward investment has fallen off since 1986, the year of the Greater London Council's abolition, and the case for a promotional body such as the Welsh Development Agency is becoming stronger.

## Magnets for investment

Britain has been the traditional favourite location of both the Americans and the Japanese for a European headquarters or manufacturing base. According to figures from the Invest in Britain Bureau (IBB), a trade and industry department organisation that works with all the various regional development and investment agencies, Britain still attracts more inward investment than any other country in Europe. In world terms, Britain is second only to the United States.

Between 1951 and the end of 1990, Britain took no less than 38 per cent of all American direct investment in the EC. The nearest competitor was Germany, with 16 per cent. In the same period, 39 per cent of total Japanese investment in the EC came to Britain, with Holland attracting 22 per cent.

Even the Germans have been putting money into Britain. In 1990, 19 per cent of all German investment abroad came here, while 12 per cent

Britain is very attractive to foreign business, and Wales is most popular of all, Anne Steadman reports

went to the States and 15 per cent to the Benelux countries. IBB puts the total number of investment decisions by foreign organisations in the year to March 1992 at 332. This meant 22,714 new jobs and safeguarded a further 28,643. The factors influencing both American and Japanese companies include the English language, Britain's culture and way of life, and its communications with the rest of the world.

Of the IBB's 11 designated regions within Britain, Wales has been the most successful for foreign investment. The latest IBB report shows that 71 projects were secured by Wales in the year to March, more than a fifth of all those in the UK.

Of the new investment decisions, one of the most important is the latest in a series of

expansions by Sony, which is building a £147 million factory at Pencroft, Bridgend.

Another area that has seen considerable Japanese investment in recent years is the North East. More than 28 Japanese companies are located in the Tyne and Wear region. The largest, Nissan, started up in Washington in 1986 with 400 jobs, but now employs about 3,500. Fujitsu recently completed the first phase of a manufacturing facility in Newton Aycliffe which will represent an investment of £400 million — and jobs for about 1,500 people by 1995.

The North East is determined to make its Japanese population feel at home, and the Anglo-Japanese Society, set up two years ago to bring them into the community, is flourishing. The Japanese seem happy for their children to attend local schools, but they have set up a Saturday school in Washington where the "virtual little Georgies" are reminded of their Japanese culture and language.

Scotland has also attracted its fair share of Japanese and American investment. The Japanese company Semiconductors has just celebrated its tenth anniversary in Livingston, and the American firm Motorola now has three plants in Scotland carrying out manufacturing and research and development.

Despite the slick and vigorous marketing efforts of the IBB and the regional agencies, the task of attracting investment is becoming increasingly difficult. The worldwide investment cake is shrinking, with America in recession and the Japanese government adopting a policy of containing the outflow of funds.

Mark Glatman, chief executive of Akeler Developments — which is developing a 1.25 million sq ft business park on a site partly in the Sunderland Enterprise Zone — has recently returned from a marketing tour of the Far East. He reports a fair amount of interest, not only because of the benefits that come with Enterprise Zone status, but because of other regional financial implications, which mean he is offering quality business space at an all-in occupancy cost of £9-£12 a sq ft.

Mr Glatman emphasises, however, that potential investors have made it abundantly clear that a prerequisite before coming to Britain can even be considered is that the UK must be part of Europe, with unfet-

tered access to the whole European market.

If the regions are going all-out to attract inward investment, what of London? Unlike other European capitals, it has no overall strategic authority, let alone a single body responsible for marketing the capital to potential overseas investors.

Despite this, London is still perceived by outsiders as a "world city". An annual survey of business attitudes towards Europe's top cities, undertaken by independent researchers for Healey & Baker, finds that London has strengthened its position as the top business location in Europe. London, according to the survey, boasts the best access to markets, telecommunications, climate for business created by government, and availability of office space. Paris comes second for its ease of movement within the city, and Frankfurt third for its transport links and as a potential challenger to London as a financial centre.

Few would accept a "son of Greater London Council", but there is a case for the establishment of a body charged with promoting the capital.

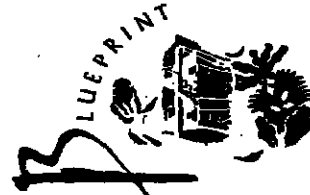
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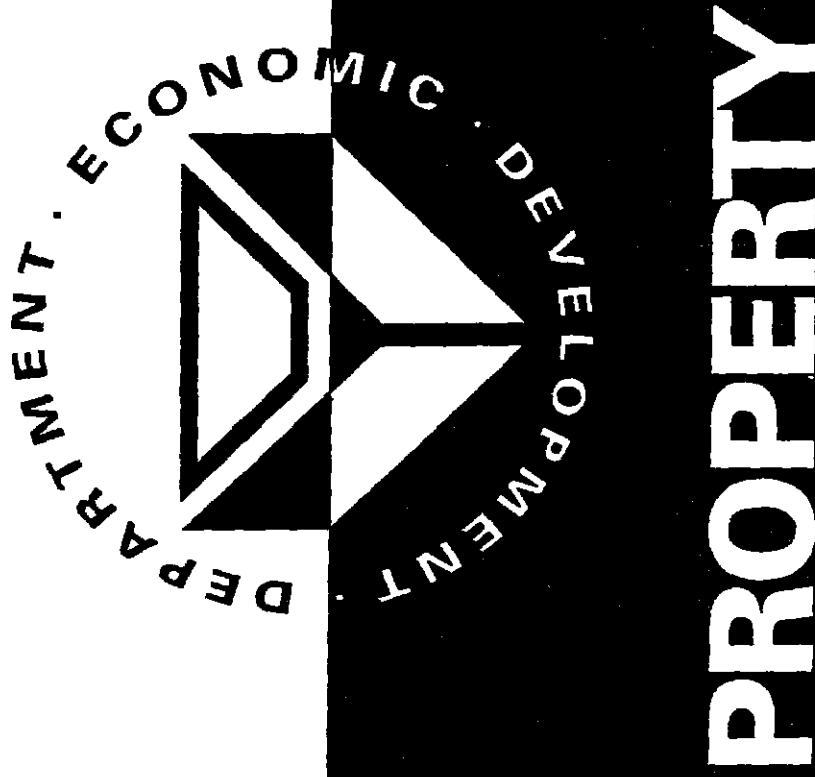
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# THE TIMES 2

MONDAY OCTOBER 12 1992

The shot that won the World Match Play title for Britain's in-form golfer



Finishing touch: Faldo punches his eight-iron to within three feet of the pin at the 11th to complete a commanding 8 and 7 victory over Sluman at Wentworth yesterday

## Faldo stands supreme at top of game

By Mitchell Platt  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo yesterday confirmed his standing as the greatest golfer in the world by overwhelming Jeff Sluman 8 and 7 in the final of the Toyota World Match Play Championship at Wentworth.

At 6ft 3in, Faldo towered eight inches above the American. He was head and shoulders above him, too, throughout the most one-sided final in the 29 years of the championship. He has won £759,074 in Europe and his career earnings have reached nearly £8 million.

But he has never been driven by chasing the pound, the dollar or the yen. Instead, at the age of 35, he is motivated by the desire to be recognised universally as the best in his business.

Certainly, Sluman had no doubts. "I don't know of any American who doesn't accept that Nick Faldo is the best in the world," he said. "Fred [ Couples ] went through a stretch where he got to No. 1, but if you take the last three or four years, then Nick is the No. 1."

Peter Alliss, the former Ryder Cup player who now

initiates on his right hand, Sluman with his hands in his pockets, to the eighteen that Faldo punched on to the 11th green to within three feet of the pin in the afternoon, the British player was in command.

This was his fifth win of the year: his successes in the Open Championship, Irish Open, Scandinavian Masters and European Open have given him a substantial lead in the Sony world rankings. He has won £759,074 in Europe and his career earnings have reached nearly £8 million.

But he has never been driven by chasing the pound, the dollar or the yen. Instead, at the age of 35, he is motivated by the desire to be recognised universally as the best in his business.

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Peter Alliss, the former Ryder Cup player who now

Event	Score	To par	Place	Winnings
Asian Classic	71, 67, 72, 67	-11	20th	£5,255
Desert Classic	70, 66, 69, 69	-12	5th	£14,630
Honda Classic	69, 74, 65, 71	-9	17th	£13,444
Norfolk Championship	72, 77	+5	MC	
Players Championship	68, 66, 67, 74	-11	2nd	£60,880
Freemantle-McMoran Classic	74, 69, 68, 68	-7	6th	£17,900
US Masters	71, 72, 68, 71	-6	13th	£15,600
8 & 11 International	71, 72, 75, 69	-10	3rd	£28,100
Spanish Open	70, 70, 66, 68	-16	2nd	£44,440
Volvo PGA	70, 68, 69, 70	-11	8th	£15,000
Dunhill Masters	68, 68, 68, 67	-18	4th	£30,000
Irish Open	69, 68, 66, 75	-14	1st	£70,074
US Open	70, 76, 68, 77	+3	4th	£28,900
French Open	71, 70, 66, 74	-4	3rd	£22,520
Scottish Open	68, 62, 68, 65	-16	3rd	£33,700
The Open	66, 64, 69, 73	-12	1st	£95,000
Scandinavian Masters	70, 72, 66, 69	-11	1st	£100,000
US PGA	69, 70, 70, 67	-3	2nd	£35,250
European Open	67, 64, 66, 66	-16	1st	£100,000
Lancome Trophy	70, 74, 65, 67	-4	17th	£5,925
Wentworth Match Play	68, 67, 68, 74	-5	5th	£100,000
World Match Play			1st	£100,000
TOTAL				£960,118

commentates for BBC, said: "I've watched the best in the world for 40 or 50 years. Palmer and Ballesteros had an air of mystique, whereas Faldo is almost boring; wonderfully boring because he's almost complete."

Faldo himself, responding to the theory that he is the most complete golfer since Ben Hogan, said: "I'm very honoured. I never saw the guy play, and I've seen very little

footage of him, but to me as a golfer it is one of the highest accolades I could be paid."

Faldo so dominated the final — he was six up after 18 holes — that the organisers, concerned about the afternoon television schedule, delayed the start of the second session by 15 minutes.

The confrontation started with a blanket of grey cloud smothering the West course, but it looked perfect in the

softness of autumn with only the suggestion of a breeze to tease rather than torment.

Faldo gave the appearance of being two up before he had even pulled his driver from the bag. He had the temerity to suggest to his opponent that they dispense with the procedure of seeking approval from each other to repair marks on the green.

Faldo had good cause to make such a proposal because the greens had been invaded by a virus known as fusarium. It had produced a polka-dot look with tiny yellow patches turning brown and forming small holes like pitch marks.

Mike Stewart, a senior tournament director with the PGA European Tour and the match referee, would not hear of the players collaborating, pointing out that they would be in breach of two Rules of Golf.

Faldo accepted, drilled his first drive two feet past Sluman's, and from that moment he was never behind. He won each of the first three holes as Sluman struggled to make sense of his yardage book.

Faldo's eight-iron to 21 feet for a two at the 2nd was struck

with immense authority; his delicate running pitch to two feet at the 4th was immediately conceded for a half.

Faldo grizzled "What a bounce", and with good reason, when his approach to the 8th hopped 24 feet left of the flag, but Sluman lost the hole by taking three to get down from the edge of the green.

Sluman won the 10th, chipping in from the back, but his joy was short-lived. Faldo commanded his five-iron to "go" at the 12th, and the ball obeyed. Sluman gave him the rest, little more than 18 inches, for an eagle.

Faldo's swing, full and elegant, contrasted with Sluman's crisp and economical style. Faldo showed signs of mortality by dropping shots at the 13th, 14th and 15th, but Sluman won only the 15th, and Faldo put the match virtually beyond Sluman by winning with birdies at each of the last three holes of the morning session. This was no battle; this was a massacre.

Sluman momentarily shed his Huckleberry Finn image. He angrily shuffled away from the 18th, frustration getting the better of him. Faldo retained the look of a man who still knew he had to complete the job. He did, of course, and the two shook hands on the 11th green. Faldo fisted the air, in a theatrical manner; Sluman was left trying to console himself that, even though he had lost to Faldo "on his home course", he had beaten Seve Ballesteros and Ian Woosnam.

Wentworth: Par 72 (8,945 yards): Outward nine — 35 (3,361 yards); Inward nine — 37 (5,584 yards)																																					
Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	Result
Yards	471	155	452	501	191	344	399	398	450	188	376	483	441	179	486	380	571	502	471	155	452	501	191	344	399	398	450	188	376	483	441	179	486	380	571	502	
Par	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	4	5	5	4	3	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	5	4	4	4	5	5		
J. Sluman (US)	5	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8 and 7	
N. Faldo (Engl.)	4	2	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	
W won. C. conceded																																					

## Finding pleasure in the pursuit of perfection

What still gives him his inner drive? You get the impression, watching Nick Faldo, that it isn't glory. An inverted personality, he will always be some distance from reaching, or being touched by, that gratifying, extrovert sensation. Here is no swaggering Arnold Palmer.

This is something different. It is an equally honourable quality, though it took some years to establish a mood of mutual respect between Faldo and the public. In winning what the defeated Jeff Sluman referred to as "the most important tournament outside the four majors and the Ryder Cup", on a still, damp day rich with autumn's earthy scents, you could feel it, see it and hear it.

"Just hitting the ball well is what satisfies me," Faldo said. "The continuous search for excellence. And if I get that right, everything else seems to follow, which is nice."

Faldo is creating a mastery of his sport that has not been seen here since the tennis days of Fred Perry.

The public has at last begun to

understand his intensity, which is the only way he knows. When you are not established, which the public, certainly the British public, dislikes. Now it appreciates his intensity, so that, accepting the trophy, Faldo could joke with the crowd. And jokes from Faldo are often about as comfortable as double-bogey. Thanking everyone, he mentioned the marshalls, "for keeping control of you lot". Pause. "And thank you, the public; your support was great."

Such a perfectionist is Faldo, so remarkably consistent is his game since David Leadbetter remodelled his swing, that he has only two expressions when hitting an errant stroke: silent anguish, rather like Norman Lamont after another day of free-fall, or a half-smile of incredulity, as if to say, "What me, did I do that?"

DAVID MILLER  
Chief Sports Correspondent

Yet if the anguish is occasionally Lamont's, the swing is as steady, not to say as valuable, as the Deutschmark. Hitting that little ball straight and true has already been worth more than £750,000 in prize-money in Europe this year, never mind overseas earnings and endorsements.

I could not help feeling slightly sorry that, at a significant sports event, Faldo's golfing dominance should be commercially rewarded by Japanese industrial dominance.

Wentworth, glorious in its seasonal hues, was like a Tokyo parking lot. And it wasn't just flashy saloons, tartly lit beneath canopies around the course. We had Toyota flagsticks, Toyota exit signs, Toyota parking directions. There was no escape. You have to admit that Mark McCormack services his clients and sponsors, but oh for the days of Dunlop or Slazenger.

If the final was almost a Boswile-style procession — Faldo was never less than three up after the first three holes — that was as much because of his relentless accuracy as Sluman's inability to seize upon Faldo's brief wobble from the 13th to the 15th in the morning round.

Golf is both beautiful and cruel. For three holes, Faldo played shots with which those outside the ropes could instantly identify. Puts which Sluman could have holed, however, at the first two of these, were missed.

Faldo played the 15th in two over, and then another half-inch on Sluman's first putt at the 16th, which stalled on the lip, could have seen him only one down, rather than four. Instead, with three birdies over the last three morning holes, Faldo went into lunch with a lead of six holes.

There was the finest drizzle as they reached the 18th, so that in the afternoon the greens had a translucent, sugar-sugar coating that left yet-like footprints around the pins, and traced the path of a putt like a bicycle's in the snow.

Three holes were halved. Faldo splashed from the bunker to 15 inches to birdie the par-five 4th and go seven up; Sluman took it back with a 15-yard putt at the short 5th, only to blow it on the next two holes. "Go easy," Faldo gently reproved the photographers at the 10th as they crowded his address on a 15-foot putt. But, truthfully, there was no pressure on him and his perfect iron-approach to the 11th ended a calm, yet none the less memorable, display.

The public has at last begun to understand Faldo's intensity, which is the only way that he knows

## Taylor's sneak preview lifts ticket demand

GRAHAM Taylor's policy of stirring up interest in England's first World Cup qualifying tie is working (Stuart Jones writes). The sale of tickets has increased since the England manager released, unusually prematurely, the names of exciting players such as Paul Gascoigne, Alan Shearer and Ian Wright, who will be involved in the game against Norway at Wembley on Wednesday.

The opening of England's campaign had attracted only apathy from a public disenchanted by the uninspiring performances during the finals of the European championship in June and in the practice match against Spain last month. A fortnight ago, Wembley had received a mere 5,000 applications for tickets.

The comparative figure before the visit of Brazil in May was five times larger. The attendance then, for England's last appearance at home before leaving for Sweden, was 53,428. When Brazil featured at Wembley, two years ago, all tickets were sold a week before the match.

The Football Association, concerned about the decline in attendances, is believed to have encouraged Taylor to change his custom. Before the eve of a fixture, he has rarely been prepared to offer even a clue about his line-up. He has invited speculation, which has invariably been inaccurate.

On Friday, he gave a firm indication that his attack would be led by Shearer, the Premier League's leading scorer, and Ian Wright, its most controversial figure. On Saturday, Taylor confirmed that Gascoigne was certain to play an active role, if only as a substitute.

By last night, more than 20,000 tickets had been sold and England, rather than performing in a stadium less than half full, will probably be supported by more than 45,000.

Darren Anderton and Nicky Barry, the Tottenham Hotspur forwards, have withdrawn from England's party for the Uefa Under-21 championship qualifying match against Norway at Peterborough tomorrow. Both players had injuries when the squad assembled in Peterborough and they were sent back to their club.

They bring the number of withdrawals to four. Steve Froggatt, of Aston Villa, and Matthew Jackson, of Everton, withdrew last week. Andrew Impey, the Queens Park Rangers forward, has been promoted from the stand-by list.

Taylor's risk, page 26

## Ubogu gets the call

Victor Ubogu has been brought in at tight-head prop for England's rugby union international against Canada at Wembley on Saturday. He was one of three new caps named yesterday, along with Ian Hunter and Tony Underwood on the wings. Ubogu, 28, who replaces Jeff Probyn, has the most demanding task of all. There are five changes from the side that beat Wales 24-0 at Twickenham last March.

Page 24

## Eddery lands top prize

Wolfhound, ridden by Pat Eddery, made all the running to win the big race in France yesterday, the group one Prix de la Forêt at Longchamp. The winner, trained at Newmarket by John Gosden, will now tackle another valuable overseas prize in the Breeders' Cup Sprint at Gulfstream Park, Florida, on October 31. Henry Cecil's Pursuit Of Love started favourite but could finish only sixth and will now be retired to stud.

Racing, page 30

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Tragic slip: Sir Arkay, ridden by Jurg Friedli, looks to be successfully negotiating the Bank at Wembley Arena yesterday before losing his footing near the end. The horse broke his leg in the accident and was destroyed immediately



## Law changes affect selection as Cooke ushers in younger generation

### Australians criticise new laws

By PETER BILLS

THE recent law changes have turned rugby union into a mirror image of rugby league, Bob Dwyer, the Australian coach, said yesterday. Dwyer, leading the Australians on a tour of Ireland and Wales, said that the game risked being permanently altered if the ruck and maul law was allowed to remain.

"Many teams, New Zealand among them, are now playing like rugby league sides because it has become extremely difficult to break opposing defences," Dwyer said. "They play almost one against one with big men bashing up the middle. Even when the ball goes out wide they use big men on their wings to try and smash their way through. It is more like rugby league or American football."

"You do not need to commit many defenders to the broken play situation so when the ball reaches the backs there are probably ten players standing off. All the attacking side can do in that situation is kick."

Michael Lynagh, the new Australia captain, said: "I have not seen a team play really well under the new laws. They have quickened up the game to a frantic pace but have stifled attacking rugby."

The party arrived in Ireland without Tim Kelleher, the full back, who will join them on Friday after a bereavement.

## England will introduce three newcomers against Canada

By DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT



Ubogu: quick mover

ENGLAND yesterday began the process of ushering a new generation of players into their international side by naming three newcomers to play Canada. In the process, England will see how some players, who have won two grand slams and reached a World Cup final, respond to a gauntlet slapped in the face.

The team that will play at Wembley on Saturday offers a chance to players in form to show they can prosper at the highest level. Thus Ian Hunter and Tony Underwood win first caps on the wings and, at the age of 28, Victor Ubogu comes in at tight-head prop with the most demanding task of all, replacing Jeff Probyn.

In addition, two players with only a couple of caps to their name, John Oliver and Dean Ryan, will play at hooker and blindside flanker, respectively. In all there are five changes from the England side that beat Wales 24-0 at Twickenham last March to remain unbeaten in the five nations championship.

The selectors have taken into account, too, the effect of this season's law changes which have helped Ubogu, Ryan, 26, and Hunter, 24. All three have demonstrated a capacity to create, or take advantage of, broken fields and have shown the ability to

beat opponents with the ball in hand.

Geoff Cooke, England's team manager, referred pointedly to early-season form: since he is to manage the British Isles next summer in New Zealand Cooke knows better than anyone what a long season it will be and how imperatives may change. The qualities of such players as Probyn, now 36, may serve England again in the hot-house atmosphere of the international championship.

Cooke has accepted that the match fitness of Hunter and Jason Leonard, who have played one and two matches, respectively, this season will be sufficient. He will hope that Ryan, involved in controversy during last month's Harlequins-Wasps League game when Simon Dear the Harle-

quins' lock suffered concussion after a blow in the face, will sustain the disciplinary standards laid down for his team.

Cooke admitted that Oliver's name had been pencilled in at hooker even before Brian Moore, the holder of 40 caps, was injured: "he earned his place on merit and, in general, started the season better," he said. "But Brian is a terrific competitor with a long season ahead of him. He will be pressing for his place back."

Similarly Ubogu, who started his senior career on the loose head but has since moved via Moseley, Oxford University and Richmond to Bath where he switched to tight-head last season, earns the reward for steady improvement over the last 18 months and a productive tour with England B in New Zealand in the summer: "We are aware of changes in the game and felt it was important to have a player who does what Victor does with the ball in his hands, at a time when there are relatively few scrums," Cooke said.

"Victor has the ability to carry the ball forward into the heart of defences with power and pace. He can knock holes for us." Ubogu has been timed at 11.3 seconds over 100 meters, but Probyn's career is by no means over after 33 caps. He will remember 1989 when England played Andy Mullins and Mark Linnert at

prop against Fiji, only to recall subsequently old campaigners, Probyn and Paul Rendall. Underwood, 23, follows his brother, Rory, into the England side, aware that Rory's change of heart about retirement makes him available on the left wing for the game against South Africa on November 14.

There is no place in the match squad for England's most capped scrum half, Richard Hill. The replacement for his position is Steve Bates.

ENGLAND: J. M. Webb (Bath); I. Hunter (Northampton); W. D. C. C. (Cardiff); Underwood (Leicester); C. R. Andrew (Wasps); C. D. Monte (Gloucester); J. Leonard (Harlequins); G. J. Oliver (Northampton); V. E. Ubogu (Bath); D. Ryan (Wasps); M. C. Bayfield (Northampton); W. A. Dwyer (Preston Grange); P. J. Winterbottom (Harlequins); D. Richards (Leicester); Replacements: P. R. de Glanville (Bath); S. Barnes (Bath); S. M. Bates (Wasps); K. Dunn (Wasps); J. A. Probyn (Wasps); T. A. K. Roeder (Northampton).

□ Geoff Cooke is to protest about the decision of the Senior Club's Association to bar Rob Andrew from competitive rugby after his return from Toulouse to Wasps.

Andrew has to re-register with Wasps, and must serve a 120-day eligibility period. Cooke's action is not because Andrew is a national squad member but is a protest on principle: "I think it's totally nonsensical," he said. "I was staggered that a guy who gets moved as part of his business and then returns to his old club could be affected in this way."



Head of River to Pooley

GUY Pooley and Calman MacLennan, of Leander, combined their sculling talents to win the Head of the River pairs on Saturday by ten seconds from Bill Baker, the Great Britain lightweight, and Ben Helm, his London RC partner (Mike Rosewell writes).

Pooley (pictured above) was just one of a number of Olympians on show over the Tideway course, which was closed for the first time to other river traffic to enable the event to accept more than 100 crews.

Wade Hall-Craggs, the Olympic single sculler, was partnered by Annabel Eyles, an Olympic finalist, in winning the mixed doubles for Tideway Scullers, but Richard Stanhope and Rachel Hirst, their clubmates and fellow Olympic performers, were only four seconds slower in spite of becoming entangled with a slower crew and stopping briefly at Barnes Bridge.

Jo Turvey, raised to prominence as Miriam Batten's partner in the Olympic coxless pair, won this class on Saturday with Jo Pow, her Putney Town partner. The duo had a ten-second win over Sara Bennett and Vicky Filzell, lightweight squad members.

Eton, with seven crews, were the top school of the day but lost out in the double sculls to St Paul's. Just 0.2sec separated St Paul's from Emanuel and Eton.

RESULTS: Pairs Head of the River (Hammerhead) to Chiswick: Double Sculls: Coxs: Leander, 11min 41sec; Senior 2: London III, 12min; Junior: St Paul's, 12:57; Women: Tideway Scullers: London University, 13:52; Mixed: Tideway Scullers VI, 12:28; Veterans: Worcester, 12:34; Coxless Pairs: Coxs: Cambridge 99.1, 13:31; Senior 1: Bedford, 13:19; Senior 2: Eton II, 13:16; Junior: Eton V, 13:26; Women: Putney Town II, 13:49; Veterans: Upper Thames IV, 13:29; Coxed Pairs: Open: Isis II, 13:14.

## Whitaker's Derby success marred by fatality at Bank

By JENNY MACARTHUR

TRAGEDY struck at the Horse of the Year Show at Wembley Arena yesterday when the Swiss horse, Sir Arkay, broke his leg jumping off the innovative ten-foot Bank during the Everest Derby.

The eight-year-old gelding, ridden by Jurg Friedli, was the third to go in the competition, which had been billed as one of the highlights of the show. The young horse, who was not wearing studs, lost his footing halfway down the Bank and crashed to the ground, breaking his near-foreleg. He was put down within minutes of the accident.

Although the two earlier riders, Mark McCourt and Jessica Chesney, had both negotiated the course successfully, the Bank was immediately removed from the competition. The eventual winner, Michael Whitaker, on My Messieur, was one of several riders who said they would have pulled out had the Bank remained.

For the already beleaguered show it was devastating. Michael Bates, the chairman, said: "It's a very sad occasion — it was an unlucky accident but we certainly won't be using the Bank again at this show."

It was the first time a bank had been used indoors in Britain, though a similar one has been used successfully at the Millstreet Show in County Cork. The organisers at Wembley, desperately needing a crowd-puller to replace the former Masters and Grand Prix competitions, decided to follow Millstreet's example.

Brian Parry, who built the Wembley Bank, had modelled it on the Millstreet one, using the same three-inch rubber bricks on the surface. But it was less steep. An RSPCA officer at the show, Norman Booth, said he had had "reservations" about the Bank but the riders only voiced concerns after seeing Friedli's accident.

Chesney, who had a superb clear round on Diamond Exchange, said the Bank was a stronger construction than the Millstreet one. "Every precaution had been taken by the organisers to ensure that it was safe — it was just one of those fluke accidents."

David Broome, who finished third on Ancit Countryman, said he had not been worried about competing. "It seemed a good idea to try out something new — it's just tragic that this should have happened," he said.

Friedli, 47, is an experienced Swiss rider who had already won £20,000 with his eight-year-old Belgian-bred horse. Although too upset to say anything after the accident, he later told Bates that he would like to be asked back to the show next year.

Fatalities at Britain's main horse shows are rare. This is the first at the Horse of the Year Show since Derek Ricketts' Beau Supreme broke a leg in 1975. In 1972, Anne Backhouse's Charnusca Lad broke his leg on the famous outdoor Derby Bank at Hickstead.

With the atmosphere in the arena understandably subdued, it was left to the intrepid Whitaker brothers to revive interest in the Everest Derby. Twelve horses reached the jump-off, which turned out to be the most exciting of the week.

Broome set the standard with a fast clear round on Ancit Countryman. John Whitaker, already the winner of five classes, produced a faster clear, on Henderson Gammon, to take the lead.

Michael Whitaker, on Henderson My Messieur, then produced a thrilling round more than two seconds faster than his brother's. Though he won the £6,000 first prize, the sponsors also gave Chesney £5,000, as she had the only clear round before the Bank was taken out.

### RESULTS FROM WEMBLEY

The Everest Derby: 1. Henderson My Messieur (M. Whitaker), 0 in 33.50; 2. Henderson Gammon (J. Whitaker), 0 in 36.11; 3. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 4. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 5. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 6. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 7. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 8. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 9. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 10. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 11. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 12. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 13. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 14. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 15. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 16. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 17. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 18. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 19. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 20. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 21. Ancit Countryman (D. Broome), 0 in 41.50; 22. 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Andrew Longmore visits the North East and finds the Geordie psyche in fine fettle in the middle of a football renaissance

## Fog lifts on the Tyne to reveal a bright future

Tyneside has seen too many false dawns to be deceived by another glimpse of the promised land. But there is no mistaking the expectancy which has sprung from St James' Park since the start of the football season.

Optimism is a strong currency in the North East at the worst of times and its stock is now so high at Newcastle United that the sales of the sponsor's product have soared, the crime rate has fallen, and the three official club shops have sold out of team shirts (large and extra large). One local doctor even claims that the club's success has prompted a dramatic drop in the number of psychiatric patients in his hospital.

In fact, the well of goodwill from the "toon army" and the local business community has never run dry, even when the club came to within five minutes of almost certain extinction in the penultimate game last season. The passion does have some limits. The supporters were not willing to put down their money to buy up the club's share offer two years ago — mainly because they did not trust the board to use their cash wisely — but they came in droves to support the team in its hour of need and, a few years back, lined the streets to mourn the death of Jackie Milburn, Newcastle's all-time favourite son.

The geography of the city advertises the importance of the football club to the community. St James' Park stands above the town like an old fortress, flanked by the offices of Newcastle Breweries, the club's main sponsor. The church, home of that other religion, is given space a little lower down the hill.

For local business, the club's unblemished start to the season has not stemmed the effects of recession but it has provided a welcome and unexpected billboard for promotion of the region. Equally important, it puts a smile on people's faces, makes them, according to my taxi driver, forsake the bus for a ride in his cab.

"I don't think it helps your profits directly," said Bob Thompson, managing director of Pycroft, a paint contracting company based in Newcastle. "But it makes my workforce happier and it makes people in the town feel good. It's a good talking point, and not just those who go to the games. It's in the church, the shops, the clubs. People who are not even interested in the game will know the team won again."

"I'm a great believer in the traditions of the North East and we have been sold short in many ways by people at the top of industry. A successful football club is the outward sign that we are

doing good things up here and that there are a lot of people working very hard to succeed despite the economic problems," he said.

In industrial terms, the Newcastle of "Wor Jackie" and Hughie Gallacher is not the Newcastle of Kevin Keegan and Paul Gascoigne. The days of whistling down pits have gone — there is only one left in Northumberland — but the passion for the game has survived the deaths of the traditional industries — coal, steel and shipbuilding — and thrived anew in the supposedly greener pastures of post-Thatcher Britain.

Had Newcastle Breweries not been such good neighbours, doubtless Nissan or any one of the 47 Japanese companies in the area would have been only too happy to put their names on the famous black-and-white stripes. An easy short-cut to the hearts and minds of the North East.

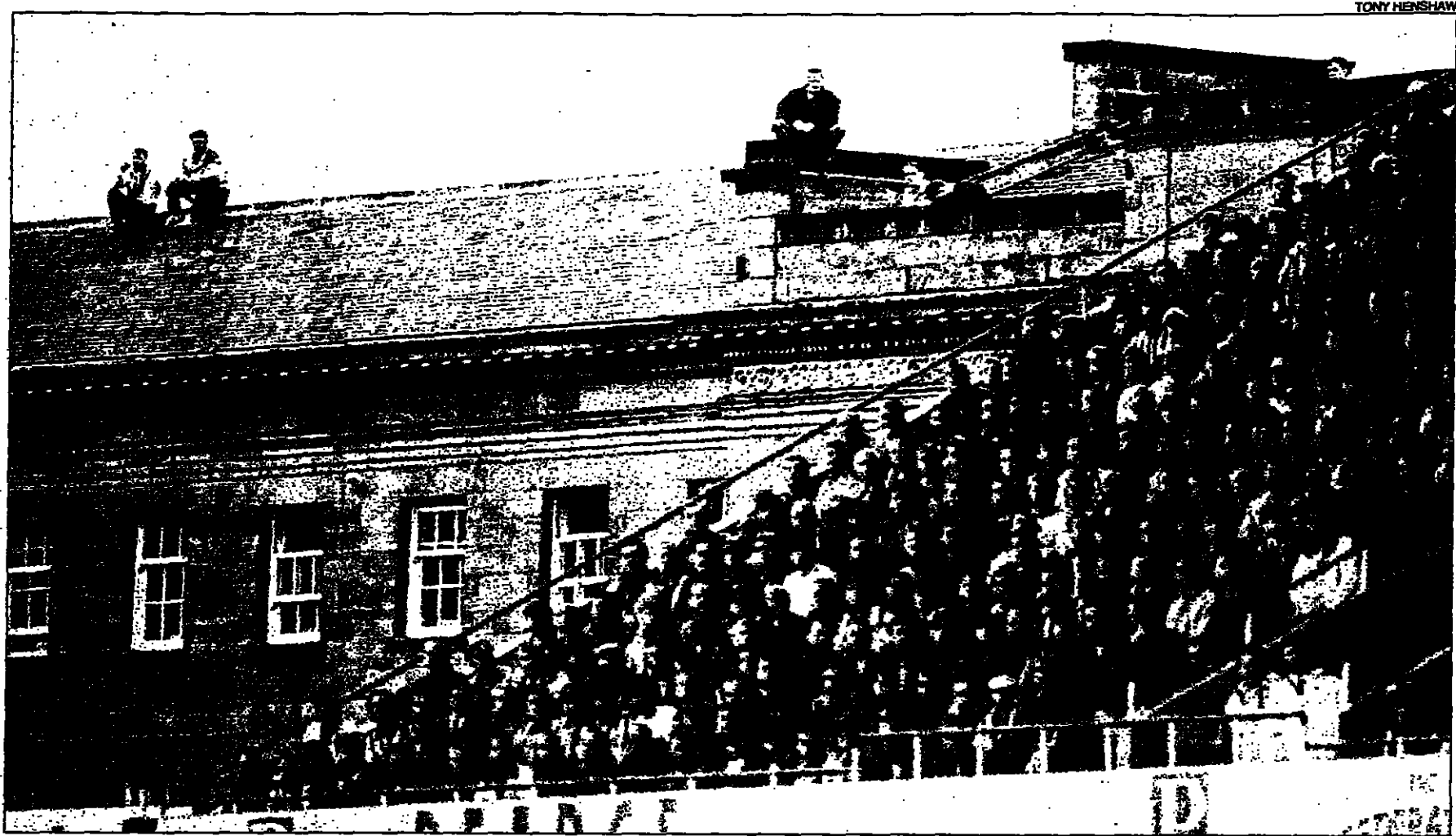
Yet nobody has really traced the source of the well. Football is handed down through generations, a precious family heirloom, which might have to be pawned from time to time but never sold. Judging by the age range of the queues that form outside the ground, fathers have a duty to bring their children to drink the draught and, on the grounds that one, sip should last a lifetime, Keegan and his faithful headman, Terry McDermott, have attracted a whole new generation of support this season.

Three hours before kick-off on Saturday, the queues for the Gallowgate End wound back past the museum, the Milburn Stand and the main entrance. Even the Manchester United captain, Steve Bruce, down to see what all the fuss was about, had to work hard to claim his place. "It's worse than getting Cup Final tickets," he said. It will get harder, too. From now on, every home game will be all-ticket. On Saturday, 7,000 supporters were locked out.

That was not always the way. In 1893, the directors of the club had to issue a firm warning to the people. "The Newcastle public do not deserve to be catered for as far as professional football is concerned," they said.

Apathy was not given house room at St James' Park on Saturday as Keegan's team, with a 1-0 victory over Tranmere Rovers, made it ten wins out of ten matches in the first division and justified, for another afternoon at least, the gamblers' claim that this team is the best since the FA Cup-winning side of 1955.

"Team, mind," he added by way of clarification. "We've had plenty of good individual players in the



Roof with a view: vantage points are at a premium at St James' Park as Newcastle United's run of ten successive victories generates an unbridled enthusiasm

past, but no team." Most of them, of course, have been sold south to finance the incompetence of the club's management.

Newcastle's debt, which now stands at £6.5 million, is testimony to a generation of failure, but at least success on the field and the promise of brighter tomorrows have given the club time to get their house in order. The local bank managers, no less than the supporters, will be basking in the glory of Newcastle's 100 per cent record as well as in the growing value of young players like Lee Clark, Gavin Peacock and Steve Howey.

Freddie Fletcher, who was imported from Rangers by Sir John Hall to sort out the financial mess, sees light at the end of the tunnel. "I just hope it's not a train," he said.

As one of ten children and a long-time supporter of Merton, Fletcher knows all about how to make ends meet. Until he came to Newcastle this year, he fondly believed that Manchester United

and Rangers were the two biggest clubs in the country. Now he is not so sure. "I think this club might be the biggest. But its potential has been hidden for so long, we don't really know," he said. "As Kevin says, 'It's like digging for oil without knowing how much oil is there.'"

Fletcher is fond of quoting Keegan. "The fans have supported this club through thick and thin" is another of his favourites.

On the field, Keegan has moulded a team in his own image. Fleet-footed, quick-witted and terrified of scoring a goal from further out than ten yards, Newcastle play like a bunch of Keegans. They hunt in small packs, cut off opponents' avenues swiftly and open up their own with neat invention.

The notable exception to the quick-quick tempo is Liam O'Brien, a Trevor Brooking among the scurrying Keegans. Unhurried and deceptively strong, O'Brien does most of his work just in front of the back four but he has an instinctive understanding of when to go forward. Five times in the

first half on Saturday, he drifted into the right side of the penalty area, his third foray ending in a neat chip to the far post for David Kelly to score the winner.

But for a tendency to over-elaborate near goal, there would have been plenty more. By the end, even Tranmere, a team of good footballing pedigree, were reduced to uncultured punts upfield for John Aldridge and Chris Malkin to chase. Yet only a narrow outside decision in the second half deprived the latter of an undeserved equaliser, kept Newcastle in pursuit of Reading's record of 13 victories at the start of a season and sent 30,137 of the Geordie faithful home to smile for another seven days.

Next week, after a four-day break in the more peaceful surroundings of the Isle of Man, Newcastle will visit Sunderland and the soul of the North East will be bared once more.

Passion will be taken for granted. "After all," as one old-timer put it, "football is the only game played here."



Generation game: the new face of Newcastle's faithful following

GOLF: ULSTERMAN CLARKE DISPLAYS RICH POTENTIAL BUT FALLS SHORT OF VICTORY IN HONDA OPEN

ICE HOCKEY

### Ivanisevic powers to indoor title

**GORAN** Ivanisevic overwhelmed Stefan Edberg 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 in the Australian Indoor tennis final yesterday. Ivanisevic served 11 aces, and his powerful ground strokes, passing shots and aggressive attacking at the net left the US Open champion bewildered.

Jim Courier and Andre Agassi have pulled out of this week's Tokyo tournament, Courier with viral bronchitis and Agassi with flu and thigh muscle pains.

### Iron Man records

**Triathlete:** Chris Ray, a Royal Marine, set a British best of 9hr 07min 08sec to finish 34th in the Iron Man world championships in Hawaii. Mark Allen, of the United States, and Paula Newby Fraser, of Zimbabwe, set course records. Allen completed the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile cycle ride, and 26.2-mile marathon run in 8hr 09min 08sec. Newby Fraser clocked 8hr 55min 28sec.

### Burton clear

**Equestrianism:** Nick Burton, on Bertie Blunt, jumped clear in the Dutch championship three-day event at Boekelo yesterday to take second place behind Jorg Bodenmuller, of Switzerland, on Oree de la Brasserie. The British team failed to finish. The New Zealand team won convincingly from the Dutch.

### Braves in charge

**Baseball:** The Atlanta Braves led the best-of-seven National League championship series three games to one after beating the Pittsburgh Pirates on Saturday. The Toronto Blue Jays beat Oakland Athletics 7-5 on Saturday to lead the American League series 2-1.

### Roche to quit

**Cycling:** Stephen Roche, of Ireland, 32, said at the weekend that he would retire at the end of the 1993 season.

### Lunn lifted by toeing party line

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN BLEED

THREE months after being so despondent about her game that she was ready to return home to Australia, Karen Lunn won the first Slovenian Open with a final round of 70, three under par, at Bled and country club yesterday.

The tournament was reduced from 54 to 36 holes because of bad weather but Lunn, a big hitter, was less incommode than most by the lack of rain. Her total of 141, five under, gave her the fourth victory of her European career. She finished four shots ahead of Allison Shapcott, from Bristol, and Helen Hopkins, an Australian based over the border in Austria. Sara Robinson, of Heston, was fourth, on 146.

Lunn, who had not won a tournament for two years, was persuaded by her sister, Mari, and Laura Davies that her main problem was not so much golf as attitude: she was being too hard on herself.

The Lunn build-up to Bled was not, however, the recommended road to winning, including as it did the Solheim Cup and associated celebrating. Davies' birthday party, a housewarming, and a 17-hour journey featuring the Munich-Athens train.

One behind Robinson after the first round, Lunn had three birdies in a row from the third to share the lead with Shapcott, on four under, and dropped away when Shapcott dropped two shots at the 9th.

**LEADING FINAL SCORES (36 and 1 holes played):** 141: K Lunn (Aus), 71, 70; 140: Allison Shapcott (Wales), 72, 68; 139: Helen Hopkins (Aus), 73, 66; 138: Sara Robinson (Wales), 74, 64; 137: Mari Lunn (Aus), 75, 62; 136: Eileen Rodgers (Wales), 76, 60; 135: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 77, 58; 134: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 78, 56; 133: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 79, 54; 132: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 80, 52; 131: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 81, 50; 130: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 82, 48; 129: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 83, 46; 128: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 84, 44; 127: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 85, 42; 126: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 86, 40; 125: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 87, 38; 124: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 88, 36; 123: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 89, 34; 122: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 90, 32; 121: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 91, 30; 120: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 92, 28; 119: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 93, 26; 118: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 94, 24; 117: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 95, 22; 116: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 96, 20; 115: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 97, 18; 114: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 98, 16; 113: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 99, 14; 112: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 100, 12; 111: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 101, 10; 110: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 102, 8; 109: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 103, 6; 108: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 104, 4; 107: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 105, 2; 106: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 106, 0; 105: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 107, -2; 104: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 108, -4; 103: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 109, -6; 102: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 110, -8; 101: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 111, -10; 100: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 112, -12; 99: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 113, -14; 98: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 114, -16; 97: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 115, -18; 96: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 116, -20; 95: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 117, -22; 94: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 118, -24; 93: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 119, -26; 92: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 120, -28; 91: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 121, -30; 90: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 122, -32; 89: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 123, -34; 88: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 124, -36; 87: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 125, -38; 86: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 126, -40; 85: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 127, -42; 84: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 128, -44; 83: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 129, -46; 82: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 130, -48; 81: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 131, -50; 80: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 132, -52; 79: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 133, -54; 78: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 134, -56; 77: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 135, -58; 76: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 136, -60; 75: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 137, -62; 74: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 138, -64; 73: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 139, -66; 72: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 140, -68; 71: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 141, -70; 70: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 142, -72; 69: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 143, -74; 68: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 144, -76; 67: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 145, -78; 66: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 146, -80; 65: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 147, -82; 64: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 148, -84; 63: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 149, -86; 62: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 150, -88; 61: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 151, -90; 60: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 152, -92; 59: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 153, -94; 58: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 154, -96; 57: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 155, -98; 56: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 156, -100; 55: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 157, -102; 54: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 158, -104; 53: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 159, -106; 52: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 160, -108; 51: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 161, -110; 50: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 162, -112; 49: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 163, -114; 48: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 164, -116; 47: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 165, -118; 46: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 166, -120; 45: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 167, -122; 44: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 168, -124; 43: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 169, -126; 42: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 170, -128; 41: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 171, -130; 40: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 172, -132; 39: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 173, -134; 38: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 174, -136; 37: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 175, -138; 36: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 176, -140; 35: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 177, -142; 34: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 178, -144; 33: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 179, -146; 32: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 180, -148; 31: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 181, -150; 30: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 182, -152; 29: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 183, -154; 28: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 184, -156; 27: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 185, -158; 26: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 186, -160; 25: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 187, -162; 24: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 188, -164; 23: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 189, -166; 22: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 190, -168; 21: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 191, -170; 20: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 192, -172; 19: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 193, -174; 18: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 194, -176; 17: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 195, -178; 16: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 196, -180; 15: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 197, -182; 14: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 198, -184; 13: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 199, -186; 12: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 200, -188; 11: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 201, -190; 10: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 202, -192; 9: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 203, -194; 8: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 204, -196; 7: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 205, -198; 6: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 206, -200; 5: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 207, -202; 4: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 208, -204; 3: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 209, -206; 2: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 210, -208; 1: Jodie Lunn (Aus), 211, -210.

## Langer resists challenger in final round

**Hamburg:** Bernhard Langer withstood a courageous challenge from the young Irish player, Darren Clarke, here yesterday to capture his seventh title on home soil, but, though he was never headed after establishing a three-shot lead at the halfway point, he needed a birdie-birdie finish to shake off the tenacious Ulsterman and win the Honda Open with a 15-under-par total of 273.

Clarke and Langer returned closing rounds of 69 and 69, respectively, to finish with a 69 to snatch third place on 278. It was Langer's second win of the year and his 27th in Europe.

Nevertheless, the powerful-built Clarke made a huge

impression on the German, ranked No. 3 in the world, who said: "That was the first time I've played with Darren and he is a wonderful player. He hits the ball well and has a good touch on the greens. I wouldn't be surprised to see him winning a tournament soon."

The victory lifted Langer into second place behind Nick Faldo in the Volvo order of merit with prize-money of £397,777 and second in the Ryder Cup points-list with 1138.807.

Clarke, 26, was not dismayed at picking up a career-best cheque of £50,000 and a guaranteed place in the Volvo Masters at the end of the season. "At least I'm getting closer," he said, referring to

two fourth-place finishes this season. "I hung in there and did what I had to do. I got myself in a position to win and didn't back off."

If the key moment of the final round came at the 235-yard 14th, where Langer missed the green and promptly holed his 18-yard chip for a two, Clarke refused to buckle under the pressure and responded by chipping to five feet for a birdie at the next.

That closed the gap between the two to one shot, but Langer dug deep into his reserves of mental energy to muster two closing birdies.

The glory was not exclusively Langer's. A local player, Sven Strüver, had nine birdies for a 64 yesterday to break the course record. He finished

seventh and his £11,600 prize secured a Tour card for 1993.

The US Masters champion, Fred Couples, also finished with two birdies, but they were a forlorn flourish as his 71 was only enough for a share of fifth place with Mark Roe, recent winner of the Lancome Trophy in Paris.

Two South Africans, Wayne Westner and Ernie Els, were alongside Strüver in seventh place, and Jesper Parvink was best of the Swedes in tenth. (Agencies)

**FINAL SCORES (36 and 1 holes played):** 273: B Langer (Ger), 69, 69, 70, 65, 70, 68, 278: D Clarke, 71, 69, 67, 69, 70, 68, 279: S Strüver, 72, 68, 69, 70, 71, 68, 280: M Roe, 70, 71, 70, 68, 69, 70, 281: S Snijder (Ger), 74, 72, 71, 69, 68, 282: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 283: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 284: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 285: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 286: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 287: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 288: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 289: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 290: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 291: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 292: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 293: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 294: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 295: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 296: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 297: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 298: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 299: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71, 300: J Pate (Aus), 70, 71, 68, 69, 70, 71.

## Woosnam finds the Price way is the right way

By MEL WEBB



Price: leisurely progress

THE routes by which Nick Price and Ian Woosnam reached the final day of the Toyota World Match Play Championship at Wentworth were very different. In the end, it was the Price way that proved the right way as he beat Woosnam 4 and 3 in the play-off for third place.

Price sat out the first day while Woosnam beat Norio Suzuki 8 and 6. In the next round, Price got only five and a bit holes under his spikes before Greg Norman pulled out with a pain in the neck. Woosnam, on the other hand,

sank putts from all over the place and humiliated Jose Maria Olazábal 8 and 7.

So to the semi-finals. Price had thus far played five holes. Woosnam 59. It looked likely that Price's week of leisure was going to pay off as he went into lunch two up against Nick Faldo.

Even at that point, though, the Zimbabwean knew that he was in a battle, and so it proved. Faldo the master grinder caught up in mid-round and eventually took the lead on the 12th, the first time he had led since sinking a putt for a birdie two on the 2nd. That, effectively, was that.

Faldo went two up at the 15th and finished it with halves on the 16th and 17th. Against Faldo, above all others, it's never over until it's over.

Woosnam, meanwhile, was going through one of his self-torture days against Jeff Sluman. The putter he had fished out of a dusty corner, and that had performed miracles for him in the previous two days, suddenly went cold again by now. It has probably been hurried back into the reject tray in disgrace.

So it was that an increasingly disenchanted Woosnam, beaten 3 and 2, failed to reach his fourth World Match Play

final, sadly, his mood of introspection had not lifted by the time he teed off in the midday gloom yesterday.

Price led after two holes, went two up with a 40-foot chip-in on the 10th, which knocked even more of the stuffing out of an opponent who was by now firmly in the dumps, and closed down the match with birdies on the 14th and 15th.

Price was understandably delighted with his £50,000 consolation prize. Woosnam, a man to whom such bagatelles are little more than irrelevances these days, looked glad it was all over.

### Durham pay for penalties

**DURHAM** Wasps' hopes of European Cup success suffered a severe setback in Blackburn on Saturday when they were beaten 6-3 by Steaua Bucharest, the Romanian champions.

Before the game, Paul Smith, the Durham player-coach, had outlined his game plan which was to force the Romanian wingers wide and rely on their penchant for making pretty passing plays, but rarely shooting.

In the event, the plan went awry when Steaua surprised the Wasps by showing that they could shoot, gaining a four-goal lead in the first seven minutes. The Wasps pulled back two goals by the end of the first period, both scored by Mike Blaisdell, their best player on the night.

But this momentum was not maintained and by the second interval the Romanians had restored their four-goal margin.

Two of these first six Romanian goals came while Durham were short-handed, the German referee interpreting the rules far more strictly than the Wasps are used to in domestic competition. Damian Smith scored the only goal of the third period but any chance that the Wasps might have had of narrowing the gap still further evaporated when three more penalties were taken.

Durham were justifiably aggrieved when Tim Cranston broke away, beat the Romanian goalkeeper, but was denied his scoring opportunity when the goalie threw his stick at the puck, and the referee failed to award a penalty shot, the appropriate punishment.

This left the Wasps needing to beat the Norwegian champions, Valerenga, by at least four goals late last night if they were to qualify for the semi-final, an outcome which seemed unlikely.

**RESULTS:** Valerenga (Nor) 11, Tottenham (Eng) 3, Steaua Bucharest (Rom) 6, Steaua Bucharest 10, Tottenham 1.



# Taylor forced to risk principal players against Norway



Wright fiery

AN INEVITABLE element of risk has entered England's World Cup qualifying campaign. Partly because of the usual unfavourable circumstances and partly because of Graham Taylor's erratic selection policy, nobody can be certain how the essential components will function, either individually or collectively, against Norway at Wembley on Wednesday.

Uncharacteristically, he has already revealed the identity of three of them, and each represents a gamble. Taylor is taking a chance on the fiery temperament of Ian Wright, on the match fitness of Paul Gascoigne, and, to a lesser extent, on the inexperience of Alan Shearer.



STUART JONES  
Football Correspondent

Now it is to be the turn of Wright to step back on to the merry-go-round, for the first time since the summer tour 16 months ago. He appreciates that, if he is to stay there more than temporarily, he must control his natural, and at times, excessive exuberance.

"I'm no saint," he said yesterday. "But I won't let England down. It would be foolish to jeopardise either my place or the faith which Graham Taylor has put in me. Apart from a few unsavoury bits, I think I've handled the move to Arsenal quite well."

He is four full appearances he has claimed one goal — on his debut against France in February. He and Wright will rely on a service which has for too long been unimaginative and inadequate. Hence the almost irresistible demand for Gascoigne to return to midfield even though he has yet to complete a game since he endangered his own career in last year's FA Cup final 17 months ago.

He has catapulted himself back into contention perhaps four months ahead of schedule. It was thought that he was likely to make his comeback in the comparatively comfortable qualifying tie at home to San Marino in February. Logically, Taylor, who has confirmed that Gascoigne will play at least some part on Wednesday, will pick him from the start rather than as a substitute.

Ideally, England's manager might have preferred to wait until England's most celebrated artist had proved his fitness with Lazio, before welcoming him back. Since Gascoigne is still unable to fulfil the defensive duties in midfield, it would be more sensible to invite him to restrict himself to a more attacking role. He should be expected to do no more than fashion the openings for Shearer and Wright, for which both of them would be grateful. So would Taylor.

He lost one of his more experienced representatives over the weekend. Steven Nouri has been withdrawn with a pulled hamstring. His place has been taken by Gary Parker, of Aston Villa. Though promising, it is unlikely that Parker would be promoted for his first full cap in a game which England cannot afford to lose.

## Swindon stranded as Portsmouth follow direct route

Portsmouth..... 3  
Swindon Town..... 1

By KEITH BLACKMORE

JIM Smith believes his Portsmouth team is capable of beating anybody in the first division this season and on the evidence of an excellent performance against Swindon at Fratton Park on Saturday, he is probably right.

Swindon may be most people's preferred viewing, with their intricate, tricky style, but they lack bite and Portsmouth's simpler approach was more effective without being any less watchable. McLoughlin returned after being out through injury to counter Hazard and Hoddle in midfield, and until he tired midway through the second half, Portsmouth had the game under control.

By half-time they were two goals up. After 24 minutes, Aspinall's quick release gave Whittingham a chance to shoot low and hard from a difficult angle on the left. Hammond got both hands to the ball but could only push it to McLoughlin, who was able

to choose his spot from six yards. Better was to come. Five minutes before the interval, Chamberlain, enjoying an interminably brilliant afternoon, produced a fast, flat cross from the right and Whittingham met it with a diving header which buried the ball in the bottom corner of the net. It was his fourteenth goal of the season.

Swindon, meanwhile, had spent too much time messing about on the edges of either penalty area. In defence, their tendency to pass, rather than clear, gave constant encouragement to Whittingham and Clarke and in attack, they seemed reluctant to shoot.

Things improved in the second half, despite a booking for Hoddle, for what seemed dangerously like a professional foul on Maguire, but Swindon needed a stroke of luck to get back into the match. Hoddle's cross from the left might have passed harmlessly across goal had Knight not slapped it into the path of White, who scored with only his second touch, having just come on for a string Hazard.

A scarcely-deserved draw seemed possible, but Portsmouth were not quite finished. With Walsh warming up on the touchline, they launched another attack. Neil found space on the edge of the Swindon penalty area and crossed to the far post, Chamberlain, dashing in from the right, met the ball at full tilt and thumped the ball past Hammond from eight yards.

Afterwards, Smith was about to remark that on his day, Chamberlain was one of the best players in the country, when he had second thoughts. "He doesn't have days, that is the trouble," he said. "He has minutes. On his minute, he is one of the best wing men in the country."

Portsmouth's problem, like Chamberlain's, has been one of consistency and Smith knows it. "We must ensure that our best days happen more often," he said.

PORTSMOUTH: A Knight, A. Axford, R. Daniel (sub: P. Walsh), A. McLoughlin (sub: C. Burns), K. Symons, W. Aspinall, W. Neil, M. Chamberlain, C. Clarke, G. Whittingham, G. Maguire.  
SWINDON TOWN: M. Hammond, D. Kariakau, P. Bounie (sub: K. Hoddle), G. Hoddle, C. Caldwell, S. Taylor, M. Hazard (sub: S. White), N. Sumner, C. Meehan, M. Ling, D. Mitchell.  
Referee: A. Buxton.



Balancing act: Leaburn, left, of Charlton, and Osman, of Bristol City, tussle for the ball at Ashton Gate on Saturday

## Harrison's strike chastens Charlton

Bristol City..... 2  
Charlton Athletic..... 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

ON A day when the Premier League rested its weary bones, the Barclays League first division clubs put forward their credentials for joining the elite next season. At Ashton Gate on Saturday, the curriculum vitae was far from convincing. Charlton Athletic arrived with an unbeaten league record, no goals conceded on their travels and a growing reputation despite a rigid sell-to-survive policy. Bristol City welcomed them with a line-up bearing the scars of an injury crisis and a defence as charita-

ble as they come. City could have and should have been blown away in the opening 15 minutes but survived with spirit. Harrison's late winner punished Charlton for a lack of adventure in the second half and Newcastle United's nearest pursuers fell further adrift.

Evidence of Premier League potential was sparse. Shelton, Osman and Burnstead have all performed on a higher plane and could do so again within their limitations. Dziekanowski delights in fits and starts and Grant, Charlton's young Ghanaian, may earn a regular slot when his concentration improves. Cole, bought from Arsenal for £500,000, could also go on

to better things. City had much to thank for his pace and enthusiasm up front.

Yet that impromptu spark, that touch of individual brilliance that would complement any of the World Cup squads now lounging at their training camps, was missing. Honest endeavour, yes; international possibilities, no. Charlton's early burst was rewarded in the eighth minute when Scott's woolf clearance allowed Leaburn to rifle in from a few yards out. Grant scorned the easiest of chances to increase the lead and Dziekanowski levelled from the subsequent clearance and breakthrough led by Cole. Charlton relied too heavily on the counter-attack after the

interval. City's persistence increased — Thompson headed against a post — and was eventually rewarded with the match 90 seconds into stoppage time. Harrison latched on to a loose ball 25 yards out and dispatched a fierce drive. It prompted the most blood-curdling of responses from the Capital Gold commentator while Bobby Moore, his summariser, sounded equally ecstatic. Praise for the goal, perhaps, but there was precious little else to shout about. BRISTOL CITY: K. Welch, B. Murrell (sub: W. Wilson), M. Scott, D. Thompson, P. Grant, P. Edwards, G. Hanson, D. Dziekanowski, I. Foster, A. Cole, G. Shelton (sub: N. Bell). CHARLTON ATHLETIC: R. Baker, B. Palmer, S. Minto, A. Pardoe (sub: D. Ward), S. Webster, D. Fisher, C. Leaburn, J. Burnstead, A. Dyer, G. Nelson, K. Grant. Referee: J. Rushion.

## Clubs may restrict supporters

OFFICIALS from Leeds United and Rangers are considering a suggestion that away supporters should be banned from both legs of their European Cup second-round tie at Ibrox and Elland Road on October 21 and November 4. The clubs are to meet today to discuss security arrangements for the tie, which has already been given a "high risk" classification by Uefa, European football's governing body.

The two clubs would like to find a way of maximising the benefits for their own supporters at the home legs, but the Rangers secretary, Campbell Ogilvie, admitted that "both clubs have a huge problem in meeting 'ticket' demand". Ibrox has a European capacity of 42,000, almost twice the number permitted at Leeds under Uefa regulations. They will consider closed circuit television for both games, plus the possibility of live television coverage, although that is unlikely for the first leg because Heart of Midlothian are at home to Standard Liege on the same night.

The Leeds managing director, Bill Fotherby, said yesterday: "The fanatical fans of Leeds and Rangers will go anywhere to follow their team. They want to be part of the atmosphere which you can never get from screening it back to Elland Road." A ban on travelling support was, he felt, probably impractical. "If it would work, it's not a bad idea, but how are we going to work it?"

Leeds's first-round victory over VfB Stuttgart in Barcelona, in a third, deciding, match, illustrated the scale of the problem. Though arranged at less than four days' notice, and deliberately placed far enough away from England to deter supporters, Leeds's followers still outnumbered the Germans by 2,693 to 2,591.

The Leeds captain, Gary McAllister, said he was relishing the tie. "There's been unofficial games in Dubai between the English and Scottish champions, but this is the real McCoy. It looks like a great pair of games. I hope we can make it something special — a spectacle for the rest of Europe."

## Leicester expose Cooper's burden

Birmingham City..... 0  
Leicester City..... 2

By PETER ROBINSON

BIRMINGHAM City have rarely been at the centre of attention in the Midlands in recent years, and when their turn came on Saturday, they did not enjoy it. The visit of Leicester City was a chastening experience that pointed to a season of mid-table toil, at best.

It was, in the words of Terry Cooper, the Birmingham manager, a case of "men against boys". Leicester were unlucky last season not to make it into the FA Premier League and the chasm in class between them and Birmingham, still finding their way after escaping the third division, was gaping.

"I have no complaints about the way our lads worked, they chased everything," Cooper said. "They just looked stronger than us all around." Cooper was rueful afterwards, aware he could do little to put matters right. Unlike Ron Atkinson, his near-neighbour at Aston Villa, he has no money to spend on transfers.

Injuries have taken their toll, of course, and it would help if Birmingham were unearthing new talent, but the best young players on show on Saturday wore Leicester shirts. In goal, Russell Hoult, at 19,

bore all the hallmarks of a future England goalkeeper — tall, confident, hugely impressive — while up front, Julian Joachim, just 18, was a tiny, electric figure, all natural talent and exuberance. Once they had survived a frenetic opening, it was only a question of time before Leicester took the lead. At 3.28pm, they did just that. Walsh meeting Thompson's corner with a header that Davison turned in at the far post.

When Smith promptly escaped a deserved dismissal for stamping on Frain (he was cautioned), Leicester's lead looked unassailable. Joachim put the issue beyond doubt early in the second half when he turned and squirmed a shot into the side netting. Easy though it all seemed, there was a moment to worry Leicester. When Mills challenged Donowa in the 67th minute, he earned a fierce kick on the shin and was carried off on a stretcher. It transpired that the injury, a jolt to a nerve in his leg, was not serious, but it was an anxious end to a tough day at work for Mills — he needed five stitches in a cut above his eye at half-time.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: L. Sealey, J. Charlson, P. Frain, T. Mitchell, D. Smith, M. Hoyle, J. Hodgson, P. Tait (sub: D. Parry), D. Rowbottom (sub: M. Sals), N. Gleghorn, D. Donowa.  
LEICESTER CITY: R. Hoult, G. Mills (sub: S. Grayson), M. Whelan, R. Smith, S. Walsh, C. Hla, D. O'Neil, S. Thompson, R. Davison, J. O'Donnell, J. Joachim (sub: P. Goss). Referee: K. Barnett.

## Journeymen Wolves make slow progress

Southend United..... 1  
Wolverhampton W..... 1

By KERRY PIKE

AS NEWCASTLE United continue to race full throttle down the first division's fast lane, Wolverhampton Wanderers, another once-mighty club on the long road back to former glories, are seemingly content with much more sedate progress.

At Roots Hall on Saturday they made it 11 games unbeaten with a merited point against Southend United, and are chugging along nicely in third place. That they can do

so without getting out of second gear will not surprise everybody.

There are those who believe that, if you take away Newcastle's dynamism under Keegan, Swindon's flair under Hoddle and Derby County's potential with the cash at Cox's disposal, the first division is awash with mediocrity. This game added credence to that argument.

Wolves are solid enough, with the experienced Mountfield a towering influence in defence, and they will run and tackle all day in midfield to set up chances for their much-vaunted strike force of Bull and Mutch. But

there was no invention. It was football played to a formula in which discipline is the catalyst and journeyman the principal ingredients.

Graham Turner, their manager, did not seem too perturbed. "It was a reasonable performance and a good point in the context of other results." Against a side shellshocked from conceding seven goals at Derby in midweek, Wolves could have been expected to go for Southend's jugular from the off. Instead they chose to grind it out, and when they went ahead in the fortieth minute it was with their first attempt on Sansome's goal. Much meeting Rankine's

right-wing cross with a powerful header.

Four minutes later, though, Blades was adjudged to have pushed Martin while attempting a desperate goal-line clearance. Benjamin's penalty gave Stowell no chance.

That, effectively, was that, a long-range effort by Cook which Sansome tipped over five minutes from time being the only memorable moment of a dismal second half.

SOUTHEND UNITED: P. Sansome, G. Partington, C. Powell, J. Connors, P. South, S. Price, A. Jones, D. Martin, A. Louch, J. Benjamin, K. O'Connell.  
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: N. Stowell, K. Bailey, P. Benjamin, A. Downing (sub: R. Dennis), D. Mountfield, P. Blades, P. Bull, P. Cook, S. Bull, A. Mutch, M. Rankine. Referee: P. Don.

## Bradford get best of bruising encounter

Bradford City..... 1  
Burnley..... 0

By IAN ROSS

WHILE Valley Parade on a chilly morning in October may not be the ideal location to re-enact famous scenes from the War of the Roses, Bradford City and Burnley applied themselves to the task with some relish in the second division yesterday. Here in all its ugly glory was the passion and commitment of a Yorkshire-Lancashire confrontation.

The problems for the referee, Paul Danson, began as early as the fifth minute when Duxbury, the Bradford captain, clattered into Pender with the force of a runaway train. Duxbury's challenge appeared to be the product of over-enthusiasm rather than malice, which made his rather unnecessary dismissal all the more surprising and his side's victory all the more commendable.

The dismissal set the tone for the game, with a high percentage of its unsavoury incidents going unnoticed by the officials as football became of secondary importance to players who, having apportioned blame, sought to administer justice.

McCarthy, Reid and Jewell, of Bradford, and Heath, of Burnley, were cautioned as the simmering pot threatened to boil over. In between the ugly skirmishes, however, the football, while always frantic, was

often imaginative and occasionally inspired.

The goal which was to separate the sides and move Bradford up to third place in the division came well into injury time at the end of the first half, when Williams drilled in a shot after McCarthy had been denied by Berrisford.

Burnley's incessant pressure in the second half should have produced a goal, but they scored a dozen chances, including a penalty in the 61st minute, which Conroy drove tamely against the legs of Tomlinson after Reid had handled a cross from Measham.

West Bromwich Albion remained at the top of the division despite surrendering their 100 per cent home

record to Port Vale in front of more than 17,000 disbelieving supporters.

Port Vale, unbeaten at The Hawthorns since 1931, survived some uncomfortable moments before Taylor decided the issue on the hour with a fine solo goal.

With Leyton Orient beaten by two extremely late goals from Stoke City at the Victoria Ground and Stockport County surprisingly defeated, 2-0, by Mansfield Town, Hartlepool United moved up into second place courtesy of a 2-1 victory over Bolton Wanderers at Burnden Park.

BRADFORD CITY: P. Tomlinson, W. Hoobler, G. Oliver, J. Duxbury, N. Sals, C. Hoyle, P. Jewell, G. Williams, S. McCarthy, J. Thompson, P. Reid.  
BURNLEY: M. Berrisford, I. Measham, J. Jinks, S. Davis, J. Pender, A. Farrell, B. Mooney (sub: R. Eli), A. Heath, L. Paine, M. Conroy, S. Harris.  
Referee: P. Danson.

## Crewe continue their home run

CARDIFF City, of the third division, have trembled with more success and dignity than their supporters this season, and on Saturday it was Crewe Alexandra's followers who were inconvenienced at Gresty Road (Ian Ross writes).

Those keen to see if Crewe could extend an impressive 100 per cent home record to seven matches had obstacles placed in their path as police sought to discourage ticketless Welshmen.

While it would be harsh to suggest that the Crewe forwards were given unnecessary freedom, this could not be described as one of Cardiff's better days and their 2-0 defeat, only their second in the league, was inevitable after their defence was breached in the seventh minute.

A bizarre formation, which did not seem to incorporate the use of full backs, almost invited punishment and with Hignett in irrepressible form, Crewe were happy to oblige.

The progress of Hignett has been monitored by scouts for so long that he must feel the need to fight the natural instinct to turn and wave to the occupants of the main stand each time he makes an impact.

His smart interchange with the equally thoughtful, if less flamboyant, Walters carved open Cardiff at the back and once the ball had been delivered to the far post, Gardiner had only to make contact with his head to score.

All of this saw Cardiff lose their composure and cautious for Blake and Searle only

partly reflected the unnecessary venom which entered their game. Although Cardiff's football was so pedestrian that an equaliser was improbable, Crewe were able to relax more after the 23rd minute, when Hignett drove in the sweetest of shots from 18 yards.

York City consolidated their position at the top of the third division with a 2-1 victory at Scunthorpe United. Pepper's penalty four minutes from time guaranteed them a fourth league success away from Bootham Crescent and increased to seven points, the gap between themselves and Barnet, who were inactive.

Walsall moved six fourth place with a 2-0 victory over Lincoln City at Sincil Bank. Coore scoring both goals.





















**ROCK page 32**  
Out of Guns N' Roses:  
words and music from  
Izzy Stradlin as he  
plays the Mean Fiddler

# ARTS

**OPERA page 33**  
From Catfish Row to  
Covent Garden: a  
triumph for Willard White  
in Porgy and Bess



On Columbus Day: a celebration of American theatre, and a foretaste of Philip Glass's new "Columbus" opera

## Play it again, Uncle Sam

American dramatists have been unfairly denigrated, says Benedict Nightingale. Across the Atlantic, the theatre is still a crucible for powerful ideas and passions

**R**ecently it has become fashionable to decry the American drama. On both sides of the Atlantic patronising voices assure us that it is lightweight, cosy, narrow and as culturally marginal as the soft-shoe shuffle, and it must be admitted that some playwrights have been working overtime to justify such condescension. It almost seems as if it would have served the cause of drama better if Columbus had landed in Japan 500 years ago, as he believed he had. That way, we could expect a regular flow of Noh and Kabuki, instead of all those doggedly naturalistic plays about the trivia of family politics.

But hold on. Let's not join the ranks of the zealots who think America should have been left uncolonised. Columbus Day is a time for celebration and, as it happens, lovers of drama have plenty to celebrate. If we stand back and look at the American garden as a whole, not just at some recently tilled beds, it is impossible not to feel a huge sense of gratitude.

Colour and variety are there, as are vitality and, at times, depth. What other nation has anatomised the problems of our century so forthrightly on its stages? Even now, supposedly a richer time for our drama than for theirs, there are American playwrights who leave most of their British cousins looking provincial. It has all happened very rapidly. There was no American drama worth taking seriously until the arrival of Eugene O'Neill in the early 1920s, but that unwieldy giant still casts an awesome shadow. Take just one of his plays, *The Iceman Cometh*. In it, he shrinks the world to a Brooklyn bar in which assorted bums obsessively indulge dreams of recovering their lost status. Forced by the salesman Hickey to face hard facts, they succumb to despair; but then they manage to convince themselves that the reality-monger is mad. The play ends with most of them carousing happily away, all their

### THEATRE

lies and illusions fully restored. That was written in 1939, over a decade before Beckett shrank the world to two tramps, a stony road and an absentee saviour. Yet it is *Waiting for Godot* that is generally regarded as the central text of 20th-century desolation. This is a judgment that needs challenging, maybe even reversing. *The Iceman* is no less concerned than *Godot* with exposing mankind's weakness for what O'Neill called "hopeless hopes". But it pushes the attack even further. Beckett never accused us of wilfully evading the truth and

perversely gorging on lies. O'Neill, with his transatlantic tough-mindedness, does just that. O'Neill was of course an Irish-American who had lost the faith of his forefathers, and spent his career failing to find another in philosophy, religion, science, the family or anything else. Loss, rootlessness, the search for human wholeness and a place to belong: those were his themes, as they have been of many of the playwrights who came after him.

Arthur Miller's *Willy Loman*, anti-hero of *Death of a Salesman*, is the son of a pedlar and came to consciousness on the roads of turn-of-the-century Ohio. No wonder he flounders when he tries to fulfil the American Dream in mid-Tennessee. Williams's *Streetcar Named Desire*, is similarly destroyed by her crackpot nostalgia for the old South she has been forced to leave.

More recently, Sam Shepard has written play after play lamenting the disappearance of the West and its replacement with what a character in *Curse of the Starving Class* sums up as "cement pilings, prefabricated walls, zombie architecture built by zombies for the use and convenience of other zombies". Who can feel at home in *Azusa* in the *Unseen Hand*, a suburban amalgam of shopping centres and



All the shattered dreams in the world, shrunk into the space of a Brooklyn bar: the National Theatre's production of Eugene O'Neill's *The Iceman Cometh*

basketball games and "everything from A to Z in the USA", or fulfilment in the Hollywood of *Angel City*, a place somewhat high-handedly evoked by green ooze and fanged men with green skin?

Again, Shepard's *True West* involves two brothers, one a tame screenwriter who hankers for the wild, the other a wild man who sees how economically useful it is to be tame. The play ends with the two of them murderously circling each other to the sound of coyotes howling offstage, by which time it is evident that this is not just a quarrel between two individuals, but a war between the claims of mind and body, ego and id. Shepard, like Miller and Williams before him, is American and more than Ameri-

can. He brings his distinctive style to confusions which afflict us all. In other words, American drama speaks for our world and our era. Moreover, it often does so with an energy that leaves its European counterparts looking insipid. Its characters live at a pitch that would splinter most emotional thermometers. Think of the desperation of Williams's characters as they fight their own unruly passions, or of the protagonist of Shepard's *Fool for Love* as she bangs about her motel room in erotic frenzy, or of the wrangling couple in Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, or even of the hyped-up salesmen of David Mamet's brilliant *Glengarry Glen Ross*. That sort of ferocity has marked

much political drama in America, too. As the Vietnam war escalated, there was an explosion of imaginative rage: Arthur Kopit's *Indians*, David Rabe's *Sticks and Bones*, Jules Feiffer's *Little Murders*, Jean-Claude van Itallie's *America Hurrah!*. So intense was some authors' hatred of what they saw as a sick yet complacent society that it burst the bounds of the proscenium stage, and mere naturalism became riotous performance art. Who could forget Van Itallie's middle-American dummies, the grins frozen on their turnip-faces as they ripped apart a middle-American motel room? Certainly, the impact on our own more adventurous theatre groups was tremendous. There have been other times, too,

when American drama has led the way. In the early 1950s Miller came to London and pronounced the British theatre "hermetically sealed off from reality". If those seals were broken as the decade progressed, it was largely because plays like *All My Sons* and *Death of a Salesman* left us feeling dissatisfied with what passed for good drama here. They reminded us that it was possible to write moving plays on serious social themes — and a lesson not always absorbed by British dramatists to do so in a refreshingly open, non-ideological way.

True, that is not the impression left by some contemporary American dramatists. Variations on the "back-porch play" — father and son bantling to some therapeutic rapport as the squirrels chatter in the yard — seem in over-supply. But Mamet is still writing, and so are Miller, Shepard, ferocious Christopher Durang, quirky Beth Henley, promising Jon Robin Baitz, and John Guare, author of *Six Degrees of Separation*. Meanwhile, London continues to pay its tribute to the American drama as a whole with revival after revival: O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*, Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, Williams's *Rose Tattoo* and *Night of the Iguana*, Miller's *View from a Bridge*, *Crucible*, *The Price* and *After the Fall*. We need their pep, their vision. In barely 70 years, Columbus's children have built a backlog to compete with the best.

## Backslapping marks the end of an era at ENO

NEVER will it be said that the Jonas/Pountney/Elder era at English National Opera ended with a whimper. Before the "great triumvirate" go their separate ways they have produced a slim but glossy book to trumpet their triumphs. Modestly entitled *Power House*, it celebrates — in Lord Harewood's words — the "musical standards" of Mark Elder, the "operatic aesthetic" of Peter Jonas, and something oddly described as the "penetrating enthusiasm" of David Pountney. To ensure that the text conveys the



Coliseum style: Helen Field as Violetta in *La Traviata*

importance of the threesome's achievements, it is written by themselves. "For us, survival through this rather unpleasant decade was an exciting obstacle race," it reads. Let there be doubt about where the unpleasantness stemmed from, there follows a passing swipe at Margaret Thatcher's famous remark about there being no such thing as a free society ("disgraceful remark"). The society "disgraceful remark" style came about: low budgets meant that anything pertaining to grandeur or spectacle had to be

### ARTS BRIEFING

realised in a more or less ironic way. But the excesses of "so-called producer's opera" are apparently "largely a cliché of journalism rather than of the Coliseum".

Along with the music critics, Britain's most celebrated living composer comes in for criticism — the tragedy of Tippett squandering his prodigious talent on material that has so little theatrical viability. And among the photographs is a sneak preview of how Ken Russell will be staging Gilbert and Sullivan's *Princess Ida*: the set is dominated by "Buck n' Yen Palace" and a gigantic pair of strangely familiar ears. Lime Tree publishes the book on October 26.

● The dance world's most sought-after prize, the £30,000 Digital Premier Award, has been won by Peter Brinson, dance writer, scholar, researcher, director and campaigner. The award, sponsored by Digital Equipment Company, recognises his "unwavering dedication to dance in education and community contexts". Brinson says that he will use the award to set up a pilot project to provide a national health and injury service for dancers.

### Tailored for Burton

AFTER guiding the cinematic adventures of such make-believe grotesques as Edward Scissorhands and the Batman megamovie, Tim Burton is now ready to tackle a real-life oddball: Edward D. Wood Jr, a director beloved by cultists for *Plan 9 from Outer Space* and the transvestite drama *Glen or Glenda?*, two of the most hilariously awful movies ever

made. Burton wants to film Wood's life story with Johnny Depp, who portrayed Edward Scissorhands, in the lead. Wood, a transvestite himself, died in 1978.

● With the 1980s safely departed, many were hoping that the "style gurus" who advanced pretentious theories about the changing shape of kettles would be swiftly forced to find proper jobs. Not a bit of it: the triumph of design as the supreme culture of our times is confirmed next week at the Victoria and Albert Museum by the opening of the new Twentieth Century Gallery, which seeks to encompass the "history of consumer design". Clothing, hi-fi, and furniture will be among its 600 items — and yes, there are kettles. The inaugural exhibition, from October 22, is of the work of Javier Mariscal, the Catalan designer who devised a "corporate identity" for the Barcelona Olympics.

### Porgy in Brum

TREVOR NUNN's production of *Porgy and Bess* (reviewed on page 33) has proved so popular on its elevation from Glyndebourne to Covent Garden that the Royal Opera has scheduled an extra performance, for November 4. After that the Covent Garden cast reassemble at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham for a one-night-only concert performance on November 22. Those attending the Brum performance will not see John Gunter's Catfish Row sets, but they will pay a lot less: a top price of £39.50 compared with Covent Garden's £124.

### Last chance...

ALFRED SISLEY has always been acknowledged in principle as one of the major Impressionists, but he had never received a large one-man show until the Royal Academy (071-439 4996) helped organise the present exhibition. Claims that our ideas on Sisley would be revolutionised remain unfulfilled. He is not better, he is good enough — but that is good enough. The show closes on Sunday.

## Voyage from outer space

Philip Glass, whose opera on the theme of exploration is premiered at the Met in New York tonight, talks to Jamie James

### OPERA

**P**hilip Glass, the minimalist composer with maximalist operatic projects, is discussing his newest work, *The Voyage*. "How do you get a fresh view on something as worn-out as Columbus? Not easy." The piece is premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera tonight, 500 years to the day after Columbus landed in the New World.

"To have Columbus meet the Indians was just too stupid. Now there's no controversy about Columbus; everyone agrees that, at least in the present historical light, Columbus probably behaved badly. So, the question was, what was there to celebrate?"

The answer, Glass decided, was not another opera about Columbus the man, but rather a celebration of the spirit of exploration that he has come to epitomise. He asked the American playwright David Henry Hwang, author of *M. Butterfly*, to write the libretto, and David Pountney (of English National Opera fame) to direct. *The Voyage* will be Pountney's Met debut.

"By bringing in Hwang, second generation Chinese-American, the piece was guaranteed not to have a white European point of view," says Glass. "David's speciality is the clash of alien cultures." The opera does open with a scene of confrontation between two alien cultures, but set not in the Caribbean in 1492 but at the end of the Ice Age, when a spaceship from beyond this galaxy lands on Earth.

The composer explains: "The commander of the space ship has an aria in which she speculates about what the people on Earth want from her, what they expect from her, what they will mean to her. Then the point of view shifts,

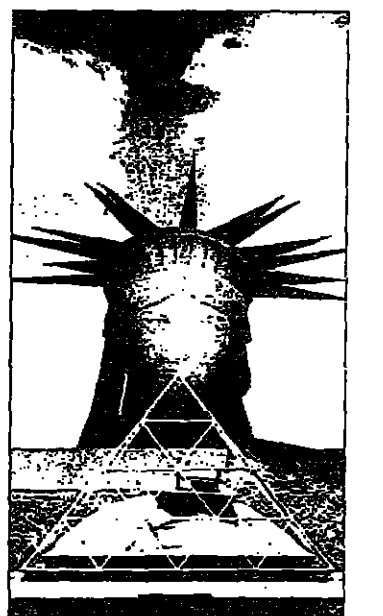
and you hear the natives — us, the chorus — sing exactly the same text. David's point, of course, is that the Other is always the primitive culture. So while we don't have Columbus meeting the Indians, our commander does meet the natives, who are us. Which is a cute way to put it."

Act II presents Columbus himself, with scenes at the court of Queen Isabella and then aboard his flagship *Santa Maria*, while Act III takes place in the future, at a space station. With a budget exceeding \$1.5 million (£900,000), this production may be the most spectacular the Met has ever staged. "The piece was tailor-made for the house," says Glass, "and it could scarcely go anywhere else."

One element bound to cause comment will be the prologue, sung by a wheelchair-bound scientist based upon Stephen Hawking. "I met Hawking when I did the music for *A Brief History of Time*. The idea was that the great discoveries are not just made by swashbuckling 'Indiana Jones' type people, but that artists and scientists are on voyages of discovery too. Hawking happens to be the best known scientist of our time, and he's easily identifiable. I wrote to him saying what I was doing... actually, I had already done it. ... and he said that he loved the idea of having a scientist in the piece, but he was uncomfortable about it being him, personally." Now the role is called simply the Scientist.



Philip Glass (left) and the stage set for Act III of *The Voyage*



This will not be the first Glass opera at the Met. In 1976 his most famous work, *Einstein on the Beach*, co-created with stage director Robert Wilson, had its American premiere there. In their coverage of *The Voyage*, the American press has repeated an item of misinformation about the *Einstein* premiere which annoys Glass no end. According to the newspapers, Glass and Wilson rented the Met themselves, and the stodgy Met management took their money but reviled the work, which is plodding, long and loud. The opening night of *The Voyage*, so goes this mythologising version, is to be Glass's sweet revenge.

"What would I have rented it with?" he asks with exasperation. "It makes a great story, but it just happens not to be true. I think what really happened is more interesting: the Met took a chance on a couple of wild guys who were running around Europe doing a

very successful piece of theatre." This autumn Glass and Wilson have resuscitated *Einstein on the Beach* for an international tour to Japan, Australia, Germany, France and Spain. "We're also trying to bring it to England," says Glass. "I've always wanted to do *Einstein* there, and I think it could happen now."

He denies that the intention of *The Voyage* is to tarnish Columbus's reputation still further. "If we had done an opera dumping on Columbus, we would have ended up patting ourselves on the back for being politically correct, but it wouldn't have been worth my time, or the \$100 you would have had to pay for a first-night ticket. *The Voyage* is about discovery. It's about leaving what's known and venturing into the unknown."

● Rodney Milnes will be reviewing *The Voyage* in *The Times* later this week. BBC Radio 3 will broadcast the opera on Friday at 7pm.



# Happy to be fretting out on his own

Izzy Stradlin, lead guitarist with Guns N' Roses, has left the band he helped to create. Now, as he tells David Sinclair, he plays to smaller crowds but is enjoying greater satisfaction



Feeling better than ever: Izzy Stradlin at the Mean Fiddler

Half-way through a breakneck version of "Pressure Drop" at the Mean Fiddler last Friday, Izzy Stradlin spotted the first stage-diver of the night heading his way. Rolling over the heads of the audience, the huge, clumsy figure crashed headfirst on to the tiny stage knocking into Stradlin's microphone stand. Stradlin somehow managed to swerve, catch the stand and carry on playing guitar and singing without batting an eyelid.

"Wasn't it great?" he asks, recalling the moment the next day in the relative calm of his London hotel room. "In the old days I used to turn those guys into soccer balls. When they came over I'd yell 'Punt!' and kick 'em straight back into the crowd."

The show, in the packed 600-capacity north London club, was only the sixth in Izzy Stradlin's fledgling career as a solo act. Prior to this European tour his last gig was in front of 72,000 fans at Wembley Stadium with Guns N' Roses. In some ways he has thus come full circle.

"For me, small clubs is where the excitement all started. It's hot, it's sweaty, it's instant and you're right there with the people. To be honest I never had any ambitions to be in a stadium band. I had no ambition to have anything like Guns N' Roses happen. It's like a weird dream when I look back on it."

But in other respects, the situation could not have changed more for this apparently reluctant star, who in November 1991 vacated his post as a founding member of the most commercially successful and flamboyantly debauched rock 'n' roll band of the Eighties.

The decision came after a gradual but persistent build-up of tensions between Stradlin and the rest of GNR, particularly the band's volatile singer Axl Rose. As Stradlin sees it, musical considerations were eclipsed by the group's reputation for wreaking havoc — there were punch-ups, arrests, late-starting shows, cancelled shows and even, in St Louis, a full-scale riot.

Rose would rarely attend rehearsals (where, in his absence, Stradlin did all the singing). It took the errant vocalist an entire year to record his parts for the two much-delayed *Use Your Illusion* albums, which were released in 1991.

In finally rebelling against the rebellion, Stradlin's real problem was drugs, or rather the lack of them. Having started GNR in Los Angeles in 1985, together with Rose, fellow guitarist Slash and bass guitarist Duff McKagan in a sleazy haze of stimulant-fueled excess, he says that he found lines of communication difficult to maintain once he had given up the other sort of lines in 1989.

"I had a lot of fun with GNR. But there was a time when fun to me was a gram of coke, a bottle of this or that, driving a golf cart through the lobby of a hotel. Now I think those same things are not so much fun. Walking up in your own vomit, that's not fun. Never knowing where you are, that's not fun. And when you get out on the far side of it, it's hard to communicate with people that are still involved. You think 'Did I slobber like this guy?'"

With his fair hair matted into a tangle of dreadlocks and a small gold stud in his right nostril, Stradlin now looks clear-eyed and speaks lucidly, if wearily, on the subject of GNR.

"I've got no regrets or complaints with anything that happened, but by the end it simply wasn't right for me. There were some good gigs and there were a lot of not-so-good gigs. To be perfectly honest, I don't think that you could ever hear my guitar at most of those shows."

After leaving GNR, Stradlin retreated to his hometown of Lafayette, Indiana, where he was born and christened Jeffrey Ishell, 30 years ago. He now owns a substantial property there and, assuming he does not return to his high-flying lifestyle, can count himself financially secure for life.

Following a period spent racing motorcycles, he began writing new material, collaborating with local singer Jimmy Ashhurst, an old friend from the Los Angeles scene. Ashhurst contacted guitarist Rick Richards (of the Georgia Satellites) and drummer Charlie Quintano (Bob Dylan, The Cruzados) and Stradlin's crack new group the Ju Ju Hounds was convened.

Unlike the metal/punk hybrid which Guns N' Roses produced, the music on Stradlin's solo debut, *Izzy Stradlin and the Ju Ju Hounds*, is more in keeping with the raucous but warm blues-rock tradition of the Rolling Stones. Indeed, one of the tracks, "Take a Look At the Guy", is an old Ron Wood composition and features the fifth Stone on guitar and vocals.

On stage on Friday the band proved even more inclined to seek inspiration from the blues, with songs such as "Highway 49" and "The Rocker" shamelessly appropriating the riffs of Elmore James' "Dust My Broom" and Fleetwood Mac's "Long Grey Mare" respectively. The encores included Rick Richards singing Bo Diddley's "Pills" (in the spirit of the version by the New York Dolls rather than the original) and a good-natured romp through the Surfaris' instrumental hit, "Wipe Out".

But despite (or because of) the audience for "Dust and Bones" and "Patience", the band played absolutely nothing from the Guns N' Roses catalogue, much of which Stradlin wrote.

"We keep meaning to rehearse some GNR material, but we haven't got round to it," Stradlin says, obviously keen to defuse the issue. "We've got so many new songs. I just feel I've left all that other stuff behind."

■ *Izzy Stradlin's first solo album, Izzy Stradlin and the Ju Ju Hounds, is released today on Geffen records. He and his band will be returning to Britain for further dates in November.*

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## LONDON

WHICH WITCH? This musical originated in Scandinavia as a concert song composed by Berdette Aden and Ingrid Byrner and has now been developed into an opera-musical. It is based on a 15th-century tale of witchcraft, with a libretto by Peter Haggard (who also directs) and lyrics by Kit Heath-Harvey.

Placidity Theatre, Denmark Street, W1 (01-477 1181). Previews tonight, Sat, Mat, 2.30pm, opens Oct 22.

THE FORCE OF DESTINY: Well-timed English National Opera production of Verdi's compelling opera, now conducted by James Loughran, Josephine Barrow takes command of the most demanding of all Verdi's dramatic soprano roles, that of Lucia.

Lucia, Edward Gurney is at his best as Don Alvaro, and John Cornett, Anne-Marie Owens and Jonathan Summers make a fine supporting cast. Richard Huzzon's 15th-century costumes are set against a brightly coloured abstract set.

Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-636 2161). 7pm.

BALANESCU QUARTET: The success of the Kronos Quartet has spawned a whole school of chamber music with attitude. The Balanescu, for whom Michael Nyman wrote his last two quartets, have just released their second album, *New American Music*.

The concert shows the range of the group's repertoire and includes a new piece by Michael Nyman, *Chalk*, by American post-modernist Michael Torke, as well as music by Steve Reich and Alexander Balanescu himself.

Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (01-477 8893). 7.45pm.

THE ART OF ANCIENT MEXICO: A selection of the finest Mexican art with the earliest exhibits dating from ten centuries before Christ. Through the show coincides with the Columbus

quintenary, a celebration of a civilisation quite different from the culture imposed on Mexico by Spain, with exhibits ranging from austere statues of gods and goddesses to some lovely animal pieces.

Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (01-636 2144). Daily, 10am-6pm (Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun, until December 6).

COLUMBUS DAY SPECIAL EVENT: Mexican scholar Luis Royon pays tribute to the Aztec people on the 500th anniversary of Columbus's arrival in the New World by giving a reading (in English and Aztec) of a speech given by the Aztec priests to the Franciscan monks in the mid-16th century.

Hayward Gallery (see above), 3.30pm.

LATIN AMERICA EN VIVO: A gala of Latin American music and poetry to raise funds for underprivileged children of all Latin American countries.

Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-829 8888). 7.30pm.

REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM: Anthony Clark directs the Steppenwolf adaptation of the play *Death of a Salesman*, directed by Clark, featuring a powerful cast of "Dustbowl" America.

Birmingham Rep, Centenary Square (01-226 4465). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat, Thurs (Oct 22 and 23), 2.30pm; Sat (Oct 24), 3pm.

BIRMINGHAM: Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera* continues its run at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

Theatre Royal, Birmingham (01-226 4465). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat, Thurs (Oct 22 and 23), 2.30pm; Sat (Oct 24), 3pm.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: Straight-ahead R'n'R rock from old-time rockers The Gallinators, fronted by a Rod Stewart sound-alike.

Mayfair, Newcastle Street (01-232 4601). 7.30pm.

WARRINGTON: Hit on the heels of the show that opened in London at the Royal Exchange, *Academy* returns to a major show of sculpture in the open air by Roger Moore.

Warrington Sculpture Park, Preston Rd, Warrington (01-524 5357). Daily, 10am-6pm, until Spring, 1993.

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## TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

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## THEATRE GUIDE

Jersey Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ *Some seats available*  
■ *Seats at all prices*

stingings, slightly puzzling play, National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 (01-477 8893). Tonight, Wed, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.15pm. 170mins.

■ *A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE:* Philip Prowse's triumphant RSC production. John Copley as a callous aristocrat in Wilde's social melodrama laced with wit.

Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (01-477 8893). Mon-Sat, 8.30pm, mat, Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

■ *PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME:* Brian Friel's affectionate comedy of an Irish emigrant and his coming after ego. A journey to be cherished.

Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-887 1118). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mat, Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

■ *PHYSIOLOGICAL:* Alan Howard, Frances Barber in a Howard Davies production that some admire greatly while others feel subordinates the text to a clever director.

National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (01-477 8893). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat, tomorrow, 2pm. 165mins.

■ *SHADES:* Patricia Hodge takes over the role of brave widow in Sherrin Macdonald's bitter-sweet drama. Touching moments but delivers less than it promises.

Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-887 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 120mins.

■ *SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION:* Sherrin Macdonald's as the rich New Yorker transported by a black car on an island. John Gielgud's fine play on human inter-dependence.

Camden Palace, Camden (01-477 8893). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 90mins.

■ *SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH:* Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

OVER ME: Excellent playing by Alec McCowen, James Macdonald and Stephen Rea as David Hughes, Frank McCann's new play.

Vauxhall, The Strand, WC2 (01-477 8893). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat, Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

■ *THE STREET OF CHOCOLATES:* Physical-theatre group Theatre de Complicité presents the nightmare world of Bruno Schuler. A dark, bewitching story.

National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-477 8893). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, 105mins.

■ *A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE:* Philip Prowse's triumphant RSC production. John Copley as a callous aristocrat in Wilde's social melodrama laced with wit.

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## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol) on release across the country

■ *White Men Can't Jump* (15): Wesley Snipes and Woody Heston as basketball court artists in Los Angeles. Fast, funny American team with director Ron Shelton. With Rose Pariz.

Camden Palace (01-477 8893) MGM. Camden Palace (01-477 8893) MGM. Camden Palace (01-477 8893) MGM.

■ *LES AMANTS DU PONT NEUF* (18): Louis Caron's hymn to Paris and a punk band's love for a young artist going blind. Denis Lavant, Juliette Binoche.

Lumière (01-477 8893).

■ *CITY OF JOY* (12): American director Patrick Swartz's comedies he calling in. With John Cusack, Steve Buscemi.

Carson West End (01-477 8893).

■ *SPOTSWOOD* (15): Gaudy, pleasing Australian comedy, with Anthony Hopkins as an off-duty cop out on a case with an outlandish mobster. Director, Mark Joffe.

Odeon Kensington (01-477 8893).

■ *THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK* (12): A classic version of Shakespeare's tragedy, first seen in 1825, now restored. With John Cusack, Steve Buscemi.

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## TELEVISION REVIEW: Simon Gray's *Running Late* runs out of ideas

One monstrous monotone obliterates the rest

Simon Gray's last stage play, *Hidden Laughter*, took its title from Eliot's *Burnt Norton* and featured a character (Peter Borkworth) whose bumbling view of unalloyed goodness. Critics reached for such unlikely adjectives as mellow, the adjectives playwright seemed to be groping towards a definition of charity. The beginning of *Running Late* (BBC 1), last night's "Screen One" offering, slightly directed by Udayan Prasad, might have reassured devotees of the old, bitter Gray, relisher of painful embarrassments.

Peter Bowles's obviously arrogant ace television interviewer was reducing Michael Byrne's senior financier to gibbering incoherence. It did not take long to realise that George Grant, at the nastiest, most egotistical end of Bowles's range of plausible cads, was



OPERA: Rodney Milnes reviews a magnificent revival of *Porgy and Bess* and John Higgins (below right) a troubled Welsh *Tosca*

# Catfish Row reborn in Covent Garden

It has taken nearly 60 years for one of the century's great operas to reach Covent Garden — but "no use complaining", as the man himself sings. The stature of Gershwin's masterpiece grows with each year that passes. And with each passing year the universality of the work grows more inescapable. The specifics of time and place recede and with them, perhaps, the racial tensions to which *Porgy* has inevitably given rise. This is a problem that is squarely faced in the exemplary programme book.

The opera is of its time (1935), and as that time grows more remote the patina of history helps heal wounds of stereotyping and well-meaning condescension. The community of Catfish Row is as valid a microcosm of the human condition as those of *Peter Grimes*, *Figaro* or *Meistersinger*.

The unspoken fear that something might be lost in the transfer of Trevor Nunn's 1986 Glyndebourne production to the larger space of the Royal Opera House has proved unfounded. Little is missed — the sheer physical impact of the piece in a small theatre, maybe — and much is gained. The score benefits from room to breathe and expand, and it is superbly realised by the American conductor Andrew Litton and the Royal Opera House Orchestra. Pacing is marginally brisker than under Ramle in Sussex (and on record), but no less rhythmically incisive or emotionally supercharged.

The surroundings of a conventional opera house re-emphasise the work's universality. Over all is the almost reckless profusion of melody, and Gershwin's cunning fusion of South Carolina (rural) and New York (urban) musical gestures. But

underlying both is his immersion in the European music of his time.

He knew his Prokofiev, his Shostakovich, his Bartók (the Buzzard Song), his Berg (orchestral colouring), his Mahler (his passion for *Wozzeck*), even his Janáček (ostinato derived from "It ain't necessarily so" could come out of *Jenufa*). The tortuous chromatic harmonies are descended ultimately from Grieg, and share a curious parallel descent with Debussy's *Florida music*. Is Maria's "I hate your strutting style" early rap or late Schoenbergian *Sprechgesang*? The answer is both.

The motive structure, full of subliminal cross-references between characters, is extraordinarily complex: the way *Porgy*'s music acquires

**'This is the great American opera and more: *Porgy* is a great world opera'**

elements of Crown's, as if to prepare for the murder, is one example. *Porgy* is the great American opera and more: a great world opera.

One strength of Nunn's production is his presentation of the characters not in primary colours but fully rounded, warts and all — and vice versa. Crown's Giovanni-like appeal and Sporting Life's charm are given their head, inevitably in the context of the magnificent performances by Gregg Baker and Damon Evans. Conversely, Serena's

bossy intolerance and deviousness are there, as is the fecklessness of Jake and Robbins. Perhaps staging *Porgy*'s slaying of Crown as a well-planned murder rather than self-defence is a bit too warty-and-all; that, and the unconvincing police harassment in the last scene (the production showing its age) are the only worrying moments.

They are far outweighed by Nunn's use of the cripplé metaphor to grant the opera universal socio-political resonance. The final image of *Porgy* casting aside his crutches and walking into the light remains the theatrical coup of a lifetime.

Willard White's *Porgy*, a portrayal of towering heroic stature, has developed over the six years. He is now more outgoing, more convivial and less passive a character, a full, thinking member of the community rather than an outsider. His singing has mesmeric power.

Cynthia Haymon, singing even more expressively than before, has immersed herself ever deeper in the character of Bess, catching her split nature to searing effect. The duet with White after the Kittiwah rape is one of those intensely intimate, painful conversations that you feel somehow guilty at overhearing, and the moment of her succumbing once more to Sporting Life's happy dust is one of stark tragedy.

It remains to salute Cynthia Clary's Serena and Marietta Simpson's Maria, interpretations of spell-binding poetic and human truth. Tinsuke Olafinahan's exquisitely sung Clara, Gordon Hawkins's sturdy Jake, indeed the whole cast and the excellent chorus trained by Wayne Marshall, and to predict that there will be queues winding round the Opera House hoping for tickets. Join them.



Cynthia Haymon "even more expressive than before" and Willard White, "towering heroic stature"

## On the right lines

**Tosca**  
New, Cardiff

MICHAEL BLAKEMORE'S *Tosca* is his first opera production. There have been casualties among the cast, caused by leaping off the battlements of the Castel Sant' Angelo, among other things. But if the first night did not go as it should have done for Welsh National Opera, there is vigour and thought enough in this *Tosca* to suggest a long and active life.

Blakemore remains absolutely true to the melodrama of Puccini. Blood flows, passions seethe and rape is narrowly avoided with use of a carving knife prominent throughout Act II. Blakemore is the master of stage comedy: the Sacristan (the ever excellent Andrew Shore) is a proper old fusspot in a constant state of genuflection. But he makes some pertinent points, too, when the going gets serious.

The state of political terror in Rome, 1800, is picked out with a sudden arrest during the Te Deum. When the curtain rises on Act III there is a corpse — Angelotti? — roped to the very post to which Cavaradossi will be fixed for his execution. Blakemore will have cause, though, to think about the mobility of Ashley Martin Davis's all-too solid sets, which demanded elephantine intervals.

Suzanne Murphy, most dependable of WNO sopranos, was the first night *Tosca*. She now has great poise as the diva who is temporarily besotted with a handsome young painter. There may be, Murphy delicately suggests, a bit of an age gap. Her soprano glowed in the opening act, showed great vibrancy in her mental duel with Scarpia and then began to fade. The tone was misty in "Vissi d'arte" and the final love duet disappointing.

Maurizio Saltarin as her only half-enthusiastic lover behaved similarly. He gave his very loud all at the start, only to find himself short of tone for Act III, when Cavaradossi should rule the stage. Peter Sidhom's Scarpia was better paced and sung; a silken tyrant, almost foppish, until he reveals that he is just another bald-pated Baron Och beneath his perwig.

Carlo Rizzini in the pit had moments of high tension, especially in Act II, but others when the colours are the score were smudged. As it goes out on tour, with several cast changes, this *Tosca* needs a bit of smoothing. The Blakemore pace, though, is admirably firm.

JOHN HIGGINS

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on black theatre in London, Jeremy Kingston at the Glasgow Citizens

## Bursting with fresh ideas and talent

Benedict Nightingale looks at how two British companies, the Black Theatre Co-operative and Talawa, have responded to the challenges of a new home and a new artistic director

Gifted: Stacey Zuckerman in Allison West's absorbing but uneven *An After Taste of Sherry* at BAC, Battersea

This has been a year of change for our leading black theatre companies. Talawa has moved into the Jeanette Cochrane Theatre and must now try to transform that somewhat anonymous house into a warm, welcoming home with a firm identity of its own. Meanwhile, Joan Ann Maynard has succeeded Malcolm Frederick as artistic director of the Black Theatre Co-operative. Her task is presumably to defy the company's longstanding name by continuing to prove it possible to voice its constituency's hopes and fears, joys and grievances, in a fresh and sometimes funny way.

Maynard's opening production (at the BAC, Battersea), a pair of two-handers called *An After Taste of Sherry*, is modestly encouraging. The programme may reprint a solemn newspaper article about the instability of black American families, but Allison West's playlets usually seem more concerned to suggest than to preach. Indeed, the

first and stronger entirely consists of two women talking in a troubled, defensive way about their grown-up children, most of whom seem to be better educated than them, yet to have married people not quite on their own level.

With Angela Wynter exuding dumpy bewilderment and the gifted Stacey Zuckerman deftly upgrading the bitter into the baleful, the result is surprisingly absorbing. It is, as it should be, like eavesdropping on a private conversation that tells you far more about the conflicts and confusions of the speakers' world than they could ever guess.

That is less true of West's second playlet, in which Wynter plays a svelte sexual huntress, impervious to her husband's distress, and Zuckerman the friend whose own husband has just fallen victim

to a similar predator. The discussion of men and marriage can be explicit and self-conscious, and the ending is contrived, but the acting and direction left me feeling optimistic about the Black Theatre Co-op's future.

For Talawa, the outlook seems dogged, not because of its artistic standards, which continue to attest to the breadth and depth of black talent in Britain, but because of what one might call its artistic geopolitics. What kind of audience does it expect regularly to entice into the empty streets of night-time Holborn? Its offerings so far have been bewilderingly diverse: Wole Soyinka's mandarin *The Road*, Trevor Rhone's farcical *Smile Orange*, and

now an evening of dramatised poems by the American playwright, Ntozake Shange, and Tariq Ali's ploddingly didactic *Necklaces*.

The Shange piece, called *The Love Space Demands*, comes across with plenty of verve, but it can be hard to follow, partly because Shange's bubbling language makes more than short-term demands on the attention, partly because staging her poems sets up narrative expectations they cannot fulfil. And is anything but class distraction contributed by the dancer who accompanies the text? Luckily, the speaker is Jean Breeze, who proves equally adept at suggesting toothy rapture, and, when Shange turns from the ups to the downs of love, something

much rougher. By the end a drug-addict mother is giving her lover, Cadillac Lee, her seven-year-old daughter for the price of a fix; and nothing can disguise the helplessness and inarticulate pain.

No such human truth is to be found in *Necklaces*, which earnestly debates and deplores the revenge-killing that began with burning tyres for police informers and continues in South Africa today. Ali is an able thinker, but he cannot construct a plot or write dialogue.

Do people really say "the pace of history has become so frenzied there's no place for morality," or "we are in a period of transition, the old refusing to go away, the new struggling to be born," or, faced with a terrified victim, "others like him will think twice before handing over the flower of our youth to the executioners"? At editorial conferences for *Marxism Today*, maybe. In Soweto, hardly.

JOHN HIGGINS

## Bird and bard have timely messages

Jeremy Kingston on Tennessee Williams and an adaptation of a Shakespeare poem

Since the Citizens Theatre turned one of its bars and a spare room into studio theatres (logically named the Second and Third Theatres), the new productions open in batches of three. Two in the latest set focus upon the relationship between a goddess and a poor mortal — literally so in the adaptation of Shakespeare's long poem, *Venus and Adonis*, where the queen of love pecks away at the sullen young hunter's reserve, but in the Tennessee Williams play *Sweet Bird of Youth* Alexandra Del Lago is the closest modern equivalent, a movie star, a screen goddess. Written between *Suddenly Last Summer* and *The Night of the Iguana*, Williams's strong and surely acted drama combines intensely realised liaisons with a favourite device, the revelation of a dreadful secret. The setting is the stiflingly corrupt town of St Cloud on the Gulf of Mexico, briefly renamed the Gulf of Misunderstanding by the ageing hustler, Chance Wayne.

This is Chance's home town, and outwards from the hotel bedroom where he is pleasuring the star there spreads a swampy world of hypocrisy, thwarted early love, venereal disease and castration.

The play advances in a wide curve from the bedroom out to Boss Finley's estate, back to his political rally in the hotel and so again to the bedroom, where the star's power is revived — goddesses never die — and the mortal's ended. Philip Prowse's set embraces the vast bed in a pink crescent of wall that swings round to become a convex boundary of palings and then a curving bar before swinging back to reveal again the bed. A golden youth is present in every scene, and though his role is not named in the programme it is that of a Symbol, added to the play by Prowse (who also directs) and quite unnecessary. Still, Prowse's mastery of pace and

deft mood-change make this many-layered play an engrossing revival.

Like the creators of better-known tragedies, Williams identifies the threads of gold present in the tattered straw man. Shifting the imagery, Patrick O'Kane's Chance clambors across the bed with a calculated grace that mimics a cat stretching. But at heart he is only a kitten. Several times O'Kane's open mouth and eyes register the bafflement that collapses from within to resignation. At the end we watch him win through to a sort of dignity.

Playing the goddess apparently past her sell-by date, Roberta Taylor fills this tricky role with the impatient gestures of the wealthy, and fearfully recollected despair. She misses the trumpet of triumph but not the sudden perception of how things truly are, voiced in bitterness or with unexpected

charity. Blowzy and unsteady beneath the weight of her sable coat, she alone has the quality to outlive Time.

In Shakespeare's long poem, written when plague closed the theatres, the dialogue is not as sprightly as the narrative line, and Matthew Radford and Lucy Tregear sensibly edit the ornate trimmings to make the love story fairly race along to its gory end. The descriptions are precise as stage directions and Radford's direction with Malcolm Sutherland draws closely on them to animate a story that is basically woman wants boy, woman fleeting gets boy, boy gets girl.

Salted with almost rough-house comic routine of grab and dodge, the production uses masks and silhouettes to suggest a nightmare beast of death, and uses a clever device to produce a stream of blood. Adonis (Radford again) and Siobhan Stanley's Venus, power-driven and jetting in from Olympus, elegantly phrase and point the verse.

like the valley of dry bones itself. Here, though, one's response was more of admiration than of awe.

The admiration was for Prowse's handling of the ever-returning, hovering violin theme in the opening Adagio; and for his acknowledgement that Shostakovich turns this into a bacchanale of war. The silliness of texture and dynamic level in the long, slow *Pastorale* revealed much beautiful playing from an orchestra clearly enjoying working again with its conductor laureate.

HILARY FINCH

Tomorrow: the radio names that inspired *Radio Times*

CONCERT: LONDON

## Youth and maturity

LSO/Previn  
Barbican

ing his incidental music to *A Midsummer Night's Dream* even as he was working on the Violin Concerto. The slow movement, similarly, was light as a feather, and its melody moved fleetly, and was given sharp contours where darker harmonies lurked.

From the opening bars, in fact, Rachlin took nothing for granted. Passages of figuration were never allowed mere-

ly to mark time rigorously rhythmic playing

dusted out many a corner made dull with use. It is a long time since this concerto has sounded so fresh.

Sobriety returned in Shostakovich's Symphony No 8. There have been performances which have recreated more of the pity and terror of war. The cellos' strenuous and repetitive bowing at the start of the third movement can sound

## THE THEATRE CLUB

Last week we launched The Theatre Club with the country's biggest ever theatre ticket offer giving two tickets for the price of one at more than 200 shows in over 100 theatres nationwide. That opening offer was open to all readers of *The Times* but in future the offers will normally be available only to members of The Theatre Club.

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Interested parties are invited to contact informally Dr. R.E.A. Waller, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Telephone 051-794 2457.

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Uppingham School  
Uppingham  
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Tel: 01572 822216

from whom further particulars can be obtained

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The Chairman of Council,  
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Letters should be marked PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL and include a detailed CV and the names and addresses of at least three referees. References will not be taken up without the prior approval of the Council.

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Full details are available from:

The Admissions Secretary,  
Roedean School, Brighton BN2 5RQ  
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COLLEGESixth Form Scholarships  
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## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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# The Times Good University Guide

Having decided to go on to higher education, how do you know which university will be the best? Tom Cannon explains the easy-to-understand *Times* guide, ranking everything from the qualifications of the staff to student accommodation

Any attempt to profile Britain's system of higher education faces problems. Some are technical, others are questions of principle, many reflect the complex and diverse nature of universities. Each has to be faced if we are to give some impression of the strengths, character and challenges facing the universities in a new unitary system.

This revolution is taking place at a critical time. Economic recession and social change can best be tackled if the university system has the resources and commitment to play its part. Research provides the key to unlocking potential while education, training and development are the means to mobilise potential. Unfortunately, we have tended to leave higher education at the margins of the debate about the country's future.

Universities lie at the heart of efforts to transform our technological base. They are vital to attempts to appreciate the cultural, natural or built environment. The staff, students and graduates provide a means to understand and develop our communities. Their contribution is crucial if we are to move from recession and pessimism to prosperity and confidence. Against this background, it is sad that the debate on university education tends to be restricted to particular issues, notably research performance, or confined to issues of accountability.

Some believe that attempts to profile the higher education system are wrong in principle. Institutions are unique and autonomous. They serve distinct communities and have diverse missions. Attempts to take an overview can be misleading, may be spurious and might be dangerous. These objections undervalue the national and international dimension to all university education. The constitutional changes of the past decade, allied to changes in nomenclature, call for more information to guide local, national and international decisions.

The quality and relevance of this information is important. The data gathered for *The Times* survey covers a wide range of issues. This diversity poses immediate questions of consistency. It would be easier to reduce the number of variables. It was decided not to take this option for several reasons. The first was the desire to go as far as possible in reflecting the diverse nature of the universities. Secondly, there is a wish to minimise the biases which might emerge from a narrow range of factors. Some inconsistency is a price worth paying for this.

Information came from a host of sources. Where possible, these were cross-checked with other sources. All universities and colleges were sent the raw data for the bulk of the variables for their institution. Many used this opportunity to check or amend figures. Others felt the material, in form or nature did not lend itself to this. Official statistics were



Study time: a pupil at the Islington sixth form college

used extensively. Although the most recent consistent figures available are used, many refer to 1990.

The material is derived from published or secondary statistics. They are figures which examine the relative achievements of institutions, but the final figures are more accurately described as a "poll of polls". This is useful in getting an overview but is built around a series of key assumptions. Perhaps the most important — after the choice of variables — are the weightings for different variables. It was decided to publish these weightings so

professional qualifications. There may be significant under-reporting of these figures. The form of data analysis raises other questions. The "poll of polls" method exaggerates some differences and reduces others. This former is especially true in the figures on completion rates — that is, the proportion successfully completing their studies.

The pointage figure is calculated from the average number of A-level, Higher or other points required for admission. Student/staff ratios are derived from the published figures weighted by subject and student numbers. The initial measure for research is calculated from research income per member of staff. Within this figure, income from research councils and medical charities is given a slightly higher weighting than other research income.

Library expenditure and student accommodation estimates are calculated on a per-student basis. The second set of research and the teaching rankings are drawn up from peer group assessments. The research ratings will, inevitably, need to be recalculated when the 1992 research assessment exercise is published. Figures for graduates and international students are based on the proportion of the total student population. The employment estimate is built up from three components. These are numbers in permanent employment, unem-

ployed and following research or further training on graduation.

The effectiveness with which all British universities perform one of their prime tasks — helping students finish their studies successfully — vividly illustrates the core strength throughout higher education. This emerges in all institutions. The quality of the universities is — if anything — understated. Important issues, for example increasing access to different groups within the community, are not covered, neither are the range of local support and advisory services, support for the arts and a host of other contributions locally, nationally and internationally. The reasons for these omissions are largely practical.

Perhaps the most serious gap lies in the failure to cover the "added value" of an institution or programme. The current phase of the underlying research is a move beyond the current mix of indicators to their strengths and weaknesses to other, more powerful, measures. Lacking these, it is worth raising some general issues about the profile.

The most obvious is the continuing success of Oxbridge. This should, however, be related to the strength of London. The high costs of a capital city base, allied to generally unsympathetic attitudes among some policy makers, have not undermined the quality of London and its colleges. It is remarkable that a higher education system with a reputation for rigidity has seen so many "newer" institutions reach the highest standards. Warwick and York epitomise the success of the new foundations, while Bath and Loughborough illustrate the achievements of the technological universities.

Their accomplishments raise wider questions. Important changes and new resources are needed. The resource base of the former polytechnics shows major disparities with the older universities. Beside staffing, additional finance is needed for areas like libraries, equipment and accommodation. A similar issue faces the civic, "redbrick" and metropolitan universities, which have suffered from many of the resourcing changes.

The data illustrate other inherent biases and imbalances which will be tackled in later versions. Size of institution and discipline mix affect outcomes. A university with a large medical school will look very different from one without. There seems to be a regional bias in resource allocation which influences outcomes. An institution in an economically distressed area will find many resources harder to obtain. The existence of these distortions reinforces the case for additional resources. Efforts should be made to maximise the contribution of all the universities rather than minimise their costs.

● The author, who compiled the rankings, is visiting professor of corporate responsibility at Manchester University

## BRITAIN'S UNIVERSITIES — DEGREES OF EXCELLENCE

	Points	Student/staff ratio	Research	Profs	Staff	Publications	Library	Student accommodation	Completion rates	Research	Teaching	Graduates	Employment	International students	Total
WEIGHTING	115	105	140	35	25	85	55	75	85	80	80	20	100	20	1000
1. Cambridge	114	103	128	31	6	83	53	73	64	77	50	18	34	18	866
2. Oxford	113	99	128	30	8	84	51	70	64	77	59	18	42	15	866
3. Imperial College	107	98	130	35	16	70	33	67	56	78	32	18	44	19	801
4. Edinburgh	106	101	115	28	7	76	37	69	42	75	46	17	38	11	754
5. LSE	111	76	114	34	9	82	36	16	59	76	55	20	40	20	748
6. Warwick	109	75	119	28	12	48	44	66	49	74	44	19	41	15	738
7. UCL	93	91	134	33	5	67	26	28	60	73	40	19	44	18	732
8. King's College	88	97	125	14	13	89	25	41	62	70	61	16	37	14	732
9. London	84	100	133	34	7	82	35	31	57	65	30	17	34	19	726
10. Bristol	109	72	104	26	8	77	43	64	49	67	43	8	45	5	724
11. Durham	112	56	84	31	6	78	53	74	43	59	59	9	46	6	724
12. York	105	93	112	32	8	51	48	67	43	63	39	14	52	6	724
13. Manchester	103	92	116	32	12	72	41	42	43	66	46	11	41	8	713
14. Bath	108	85	95	21	8	65	48	39	63	47	30	10	78	13	706
15. Glasgow	98	86	122	32	10	62	31	34	38	70	59	12	41	12	706
16. Sussex	99	30	120	25	13	80	42	58	44	51	67	15	74	17	703
17. Liverpool	95	77	116	33	6	47	32	57	43	80	64	15	48	8	703
18. Southampton	94	78	122	27	9	77	31	64	58	55	28	14	37	10	703
19. Loughborough	87	87	93	29	13	59	52	65	60	30	50	16	48	11	700
20. Nottingham	101	78	105	24	7	58	41	55	45	63	52	12	46	11	700
21. Newcastle	86	92	102	39	5	76	29	36	42	63	41	11	45	11	677
22. St Andrews	102	57	87	31	10	58	46	61	56	53	46	11	45	14	677
23. Leeds	90	87	110	33	6	45	37	61	45	44	61	10	41	9	677
24. Sheffield	89	89	95	30	9	56	31	58	37	55	35	12	48	13	666
25. Birmingham	100	75	106	30	10	57	42	60	35	81	43	14	36	7	666
26. UMIST	85	40	139	32	12	21	35	50	59	57	53	15	28	19	645
27. Surrey	84	34	122	19	12	42	31	40	38	52	44	18	68	17	640
28. Dundee	86	63	124	18	12	54	37	20	41	62	72	10	51	9	640
29. Lancaster	74	41	106	23	5	75	38	87	20	55	53	18	25	12	640
30. Strathclyde	70	50	104	24	14	44	23	51	64	36	71	13	56	16	629
31. Royal Holloway	58	81	99	27	7	64	43	33	54	66	30	6	48	9	625
32. Essex	65	38	91	25	5	72	44	51	28	73	77	13	22	19	625
33. Brunel	73	47	107	20	5	71	39	27	46	27	66	19	68	10	625
34. Aberdeen	58	27	107	17	14	68	34	72	60	43	48	13	46	12	621
35. Stirling	67	29	79	22	11	43	49	56	57	47	74	14	52	17	621
36. Exeter	92	80	63	16	5	46	47	52	37	61	48	15	53	7	621
37. East Anglia	93	64	95	16	5	53	38	43	27	70	37	16	45	16	621
38. Swansea	58	90	72	28	11	39	36	64	32	37	77	12	38	13	607
39. City University	79	51	75	20	5	52	21	18	48	64	69	19	58	18	600
40. Queen Mary	56	93	63	26	8	52	24	22	53	84	57	13	33	18	583
41. Lancaster	82	39	77	16	5	46	47	69	36	58	45	18	29	16	583
42. Queen's, Belfast	82	84	63	25	11	41	22	53	16	47	57	11	52	8	583
43. Cardiff	71	58	78	24	14	62	40	44	41	56	41	17	35	14	583
44. Reading	72	73	95	32	6	51	40	37	29	47	31	19	30	15	578
45. Heriot-Watt	58	60	117	13	8	31	28	20	55	39	62	13	55	14	578
46. Kent	59	49	88	22	5	61	42	63	30	42	37	13	30	18	578
47. Bradford	55	42	91	18	15	40	27	46	48	44	49	14	75	11	578
48. Keele	63	59	75	15	6	50	35	47	18	32	73	18	28	16	569
49. Salford	61	36	83	21	15	39	52	42	61	24	60	7	42	18	562
50. Buckingham	35	64	32	6	8	45	35	20	34	70	6	62	20	562	
51. Goldsmiths	58	54	66	11	5	55	23	54	51	46	68	9	55	6	562
52. Aston	76	13	85	23	7	64	49	33	62	31	29	18	64	6	562
53. Lampeter	45	59	47	21	9	79	46	70	14	29	74	5	49	5	553
54. Bangor	49	20	102	19	11	65	33	47	33	35	73	11	25	12	537
55. Aberystwyth	62	69	72	17	9	73	41	29	7	46	39	14	18	14	511
56. Hull	78	6	73	19	5	33	48	67	18	36	53	11	46	17	511
57. Leeds Metro	41	82	50	16	21	28	8	39	40	25	38	9	79	6	482
58. Coventry	23	74	50	13	21	12	19	62	14	24	73	5	62	9	462
59. Hertfordshire	27	43	52	13	24	27	28	35	32	29	54	7	76	7	454
60. Portsmouth	41	55	54	8	20	35	11	52	22	17	51	7	62	5	441
61. Ulster	54	52	58	10	14	37	12	40	5	27	52	5	59	15	441
62. West of England	43	48	43	15	24	23	9	32	6	26	55	9	66	13	441
63. Oxford Brookes	48	22	46	17	22	20	15	38	26	25	54	8	61	13	441
64. Kingston	37	27	38	15	24	11	20	15	33	22	75	7	82	7	413
65. Manchester Metro	42	52	43	10	23	32	7	10	35	24	51	8	66	5	409
66. Central England	44	71	65	10	23	17	18	7	27	19	36	10	60	5	409
67. Middlesex	46	8	55	13	22	25	5	11	40	28	57	9	83	5	409
68. Sheffield Hallam	40	20	43	9	17	23	17	28	29	25	71	6	76	5	409
69. De Montfort	29	70	30	7	16	29	15	22	24	19	61	5	67	5	401
70. Northumbria	33	37	33	9	19	33	18	23	31	23	72	5	46	5	386
71. Brighton	39	68	26	14	20	15	13	24	5	18	60	6	66	9	383
72. Wolverhampton	17	5	37	11	23	34	19	73	8	25	49	7	59	10	379
73. Norths Trent	34	33	31	10	18	26	5	16	22	20	73	5	63	5	360
74. Napier	26	57	30	10	23	38	5	17	15	15	54	5	53	5	354
75. Central Lancs	38	45	26	10	18	9	17	27	33	15	51	5	47	5	345
76. City Poly	22	19	57	16	24	12	9	5	12	27	39	5	80	12	345
77. Greenwich	19	30	29	12	20	20	21	14	10	18	66	6	73	5	345
78. John Moores	30	11	30	12	22	30	8	33	26	23	51	5	59	6	345
79. Glamorgan	12	83	19	7	18	8	10	23	28	10	55	5	39	8	328
80. Westminster	14	65	15	6	21	16	5	11	11	61	5	74	18	328	
81. Plymouth	24	53	15	5	20	21	16	30	16	11	61	5	46	5	328
82. Robert Gordon	5	18	33	6	21	5	14	48	24	15	51	5	61	5	311
83. Anglia	21	24	35	7	25	18	26	7	9	16	35	6	72	5	307
84. Huddersfield	13	22	28	8	18	22	17	19	14	20	52	6	41	6	285
85. Paisley	6	24	49	5	19	16	17	21	30	6	40	5	43	5	285
86. Thames Valley	12	35	20	5	19	16	5	27	13	10	40	6	59	16	285
87. South Bank	10	42	9	6	19	27	6	12	5	10	50	8	69	6	281
88. Sunderland	10	31	43	5	19	10	26	11	17	10	38	8	39	6	273
89. Humberstone	8	16	41	5	16	5	9	32	23	15	38	5	39	6	259
90. North London	16	12	12	6	17	24	8	15	28	9	48	6	47	7	259
91. Staffordshire	15	23	18	5	23	5	22	8	12	7	40	7	49	5	240
92. Bournemouth	36	8	31	5	16	5	5	5	10	37	5	39	5	213	
93. East London	9	5	13	5	24	8	20	18	12	5	36	17	30	10	213
94. Glasgow Poly	20	5	26	5	17	6	5	5	7	12	37	5	30	5	186
95. Teesside	5	15	12	5	15	14	12	8	5	8	50	5	22	5	181
96. Derby	5	8	7	5	14	8	14	5	5	5	38	5	23	5	150

Some universities are shown with equal points; their positions in the table depend on decimal place differences too small to be entered here.



**ASTON**  
Aston Triangle, Birmingham  
B4 7ET (021 359 3611)

**QUEEN'S, BELFAST**  
Belfast BT7 1NN (0232  
2451133)  
Established 1850  
Full-time students: 4,354 (f),  
5,170 (m)  
3,124 arts, 4,349 sciences  
Still Northern Ireland's  
leading university, despite the  
challenge of the University of  
Ulster. The emphasis is on  
research, although the  
Universities Funding Council  
has been trying to steer  
Queen's more in the direction  
of teaching. Engineering (three  
Bs required for civil, BBC  
for electrical and  
mechanical), physics, sociology  
and history (all three Cs) are  
all well regarded,  
demonstrating the university's  
breadth. Students from  
mainland Britain have  
inevitably become less  
numerous as the troubles  
have worn on, although  
Queen's has always had a  
high proportion of home-  
based students. The 1,700  
places in university proper  
accommodate 90 per cent of

**BIRMINGHAM**  
Edgaston, Birmingham B15  
2TT (021 414 3344)  
Established 1828, royal  
charter 1900  
Full-time students: 4,416 (f),  
6,007 (m)  
4,471 arts, 4,680 sciences  
One of the big civic  
universities, Birmingham  
offers an unusually wide  
range of subjects, but still  
achieves high research  
ratings. Physics (BCC  
required), social policy (BCC),  
English (ABC) and history  
(three Bs) were all considered  
internationally outstanding in  
the last research rankings. An  
attractive campus in leafy  
Edgbaston includes one of the  
top university libraries and  
extensive facilities run by the  
guild of students. More than  
1,000 of the 10,500 students  
are from other countries.  
First-year students are  
guaranteed a place in one of  
the seven halls. The five self-  
catering blocks include family  
units.

**CENTRAL ENGLAND  
IN BIRMINGHAM**  
Perry Barr, Birmingham B42  
2SU (021 331 5000)  
Formerly Birmingham  
Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 4,341 (f),  
4,406 (m)  
5,035 arts, 3,712 sciences  
The new university made its  
intentions plain by refusing to  
enter the latest research  
rankings because it regarded  
itself as primarily a teaching  
institution. It has also set a  
precedent by waiving fees for  
unemployed students on part-  
time courses. In addition to  
the modern main campus two  
miles from the city centre,  
there is a school of art and  
design in Bourneville, teacher  
training in Edgbaston, and  
the conservatoire, which  
forms part of Birmingham's  
new convention centre. There  
are 800 hall places. Only  
education currently has a  
quality rating, although music  
is also well regarded. The  
youthful business school is  
growing fast.

**BOURNEMOUTH**  
Talbot Campus, Fern Barrow,  
Dorset BH12 5BB  
(01202 524111)  
Formerly Bournemouth  
Polytechnic, originally Dorset  
Institute of Higher Education  
Full-time students: 3,141 (f),  
3,542 (m)  
4,053 arts, 2,630 sciences  
When its only degree (a BEd)  
closed ten years ago, the  
future looked bleak for the  
Dorset Institute. Now there  
are 44 undergraduate and 24  
postgraduate programmes  
and, only two years after  
becoming a polytechnic,  
university status has arrived.  
Bournemouth's forte is  
in bridging gaps in the  
higher education system, filling  
them with innovative courses,  
usually with a strongly  
vocational slant. Degrees in  
retail management, public  
relations, tourism and  
heritage conservation bear  
testimony. The town and the  
subject mix attract a mainly  
middle-class student body,  
which has grown even faster  
than other former  
polytechnics. Art, design and  
marketing art courses were  
judged outstanding in 1991,  
while sandwich courses in  
business studies and  
management also received  
quality awards.

**BRADFORD**  
Richmond Road, Bradford  
BD7 1DP (0274 753466)  
Established as a university in  
1966, Bradford is a college of  
advanced technology.  
Full-time students: 2,058 (f),  
3,310 (m).  
1,682 arts, 2,886 sciences.  
Ravaged by cuts in the 1980s,  
Bradford has carved out a  
niche for itself in the mature  
students' market. Admissions  
tutors are less obsessed with  
A-levels than most of the  
traditional universities. A  
small, friendly campus near  
the city centre caters mainly  
for science and technology,  
although peace studies (BCC)  
is probably the best-known  
offering. About 70 per cent of  
undergraduates are on  
sandwich courses. Students

have access to an advanced computer network with 1,000 workstations. All first-years are guaranteed university accommodation.

**BRIGHTON**  
Mithras House, Lewes Road,  
Brighton BN2 4AT (0273  
600900)  
Formerly Brighton  
Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,568 (f),  
3,694 (m)  
3,817 arts, 3,445 sciences  
Three sites in Brighton and  
one in Eastbourne house the  
six faculties. An innovative  
credit ratings system  
recognises prior learning and  
allows for easy transfer  
between it and other  
institutions in Britain and  
Europe. There is close  
collaboration with  
neighbouring Sussex  
University, including a joint  
degree in engineering and  
plans for a Sussex Technology  
Institute. Numerous  
European links give most

courses an international flavour, often involving a period of study on the Continent. Courses in science, business and management, art and design and health are all top-rated. Most of the 900 hall places are allocated to new students. As well as managing 1,500 residential places, students have access to a network of 3,000 landlords and landladies in Brighton and Eastbourne.

**BRISTOL**  
 Senate House, Bristol BS8  
 17H (0272 303030)  
 Established 1876  
 Full-time students: 4,034 (f),  
 5,231 (m)  
 3,669 arts, 4,185 sciences  
 A traditional Oxbridge  
 alternative emerging  
 apparently unscathed from  
 brief but serious financial  
 difficulties. A moderately  
 successful funding appeal  
 forms the basis for a new  
 phase of expansion in a  
 variety of subjects. Seven  
 areas were considered

internationally outstanding when the Universities Funding Council produced its last research rankings, demonstrating Bristol's strength in depth. Classics (BBC), Russian and Spanish, geography (three Bs), civil engineering (BBC), physics, chemistry (BBC), pharmacology and law (ABB) were all given top billing. The university has more than 3,000 residential places, but cannot accommodate all first years. Departments are spread close to the city centre, with the halls three miles away in the traditional student areas of Clifton and Stoke Bishop.

**WEST OF ENGLAND,  
BRISTOL**  
Coldharbour Lane, Frenchay,  
Bristol BS16 1QY (0272  
656261)  
Formerly Bristol Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 4,212 (f),  
4,747 (m)  
6,286 arts, 2,673 sciences



**Bristol university's open day**

Took its new name only last week after establishing a reputation as one of the leading robotics & high-

ratio of applications to places confirms the new university's standing in a wide range of subjects. Information technology, business, social sciences and education courses have all won high ratings. There are four sites in the city in addition to the main campus at Frenchay, close to Bristol Parkway station, which also houses the new Higher Education Funding Council. With only 870 residential places, most students have to find rooms in a relatively expensive housing market. The new university is promising a continued emphasis on vocational education as "an engine for economic recovery". A new entrance system will credit vocational qualifications and practical experience equally with academic examination results, while franchising will multiply the number of

Some famous names are missing from *The Good University Guide*: the Open University, the business schools, Birkbeck College and the Cranfield Institute of Technology among them. Their omission is no reflection on quality, but all have characteristics that make them unsuitable for comparisons of this type. The guide is based on provision for full-time undergraduates, and the factors judged to influence that

Although the Open University will 75,000 students, it is not the country's biggest provider of higher education, it could not be included because most measures used in our rankings do not apply. As a non-residential, largely part-time institution, Birkbeck College, London, also could not be compared in key areas.

Several universities have been omitted because they are mainly postgraduate. Although Cranfield, for example, offers undergraduate degrees on 'two of its campuses, the institute is reserved for graduate students. The Manchester and London business schools were excluded for the same reason.

Similarly, specialist institutions, such as the medical schools and the Royal College of Art, could not be compared fairly with generalist universities. A number of colleges with degree-awarding powers do not appear because they have yet to be granted university status.

centres offering university courses.

**BRUNEL**  
Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8  
3PH (0895 274000)  
Established 1966  
Full-time students: 1,166 (f),  
2,709 (m)  
952 arts, 2,259 sciences  
Almost all students are on  
regularly courses, which  
regularly helps put Brunel  
near the top of the graduate  
employment lists. Fewer than  
4,000 students share a  
spacious west-London  
campus. Poor research ratings  
make the university likely to  
become predominantly a  
teaching institution. Law  
(three Bs required) is the top-  
rated research department,  
and sociology (BCC) also  
high in the lists.  
rankings. A special four-year  
engineering programme  
(AAB) trains future managers.  
Most applicants for all courses  
are interviewed.

**BUCKINGHAM**  
Buckingham MK18 1EG  
(0280 814080)  
Established 1974, royal  
charter 1983  
Full-time students: 337 (†,  
486 m)  
712 arts, 73 sciences  
By far the smallest of the  
universities, Buckingham has  
just lost the distinction of being  
the youngest. The private  
university, which last  
year appointed a Baroness  
Thatcher as its chancellor,  
was a Conservative  
experiment of the 1970s.  
Academic respectability has  
now been achieved, with  
subjects such as law (three Cs)  
and biology (DDE) leading  
the way. Two-year degrees  
start in January, and pack 42  
weeks into the academic year.  
Most students are still from  
overseas, but the proportion  
from Britain is creeping up.  
Fees are much higher than in  
conventional universities, but  
grants are available. Campus  
facilities are improving,  
although they do not yet  
compare with the traditional  
universities. As their rivals  
become larger and more  
imperial, Buckingham  
intends to make the virtue of its  
size and become more  
selective.

**CAMBRIDGE**  
University Registry, The Old  
Schools, Cambridge CB2  
1TN (0223 337733)  
Established 1209  
Full-time students: 5,600 (0,  
4,400 (m)  
1,400 arts, 5,100 sciences  
"top of our league by a  
whisker from Oxford,  
Cambridge remains the  
linnacle of the university  
system in many subjects.  
Traditionally supreme in the  
sciences, the university has  
increased its strength in the  
arts and social sciences, as  
well as adding a management  
school. More students now  
come from state schools than  
the independent sector, and  
several colleges are trying  
and to attract more  
applications from  
comprehensives. The tripos  
system was a forerunner of  
the currently fashionable

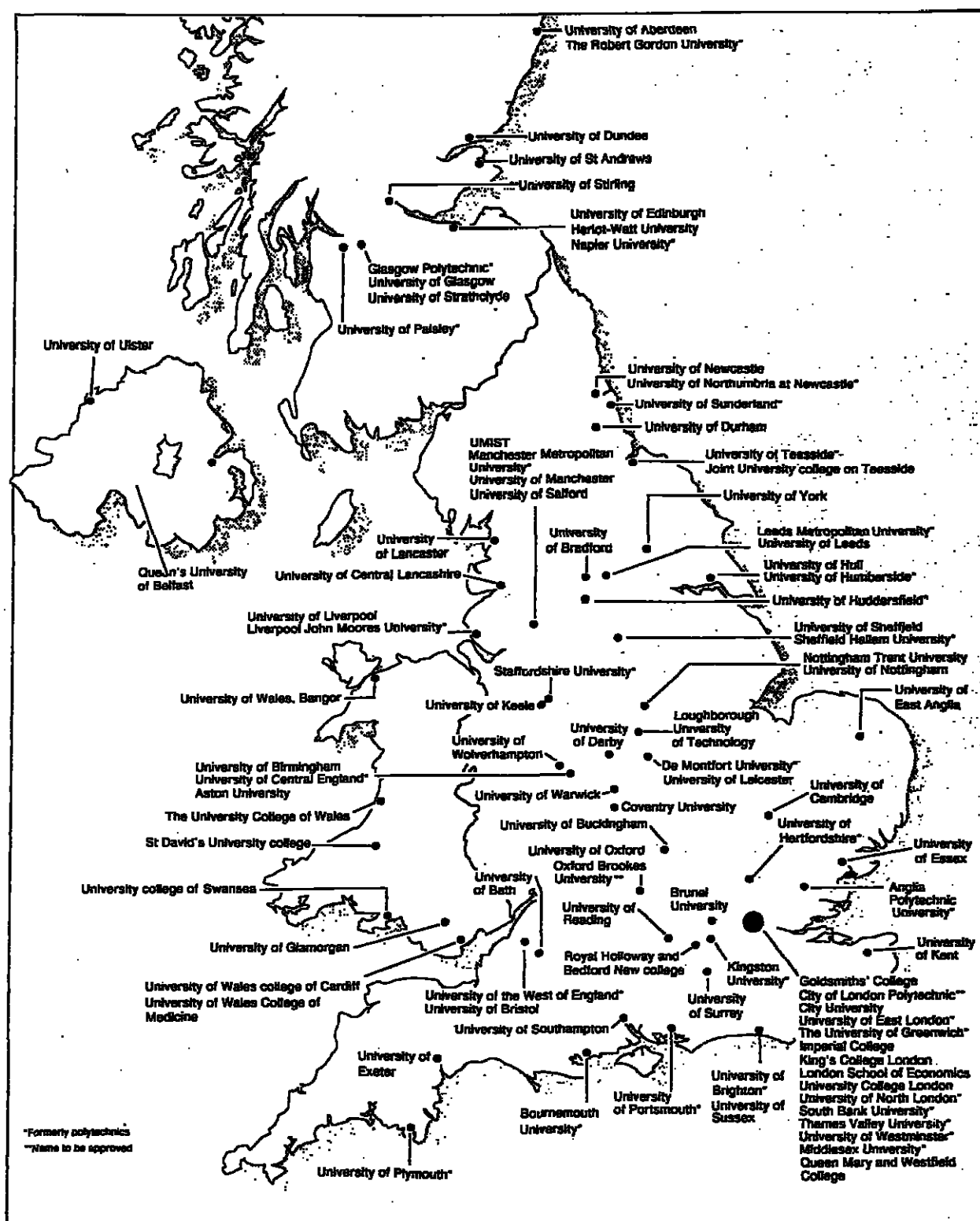
modular degree, allowing students to change subjects (within limits) mid-way through their studies. The students, in a lively alternative prospectus, say there is no such thing as Cambridge University, just a collection of colleges. However, teaching is university-based and a shift of emphasis towards the centre is taking place with the aid of a £250-million funding annual

**CITY OF LONDON  
POLYTECHNIC**  
117-119 Houndsditch,  
London EC3A 7BU (071-320  
1000)  
Established 1970  
Full-time students: 2,556 (0,  
2,951 (m)  
1,935 (f), 1,314 sciences  
Still searching for a name  
because of a clash with City  
University, and no longer  
pursuing on/off negotiations  
for a merger. Instead, the  
polytechnic will concentrate  
on its strengths in  
engineering and the social  
sciences and continue  
building up its burgeoning  
part-time courses in business  
studies, modern languages  
and art. Although based in  
the heart of the City, much of  
the polytechnic spills over into  
the East End of London.  
There are only 500 residential  
places, but a high proportion  
of the students are home-  
based. European links have  
been growing, as has the  
number of overseas students.  
Credit accumulation is well  
established, allowing almost  
any combination of subjects to  
be studied.

**CITY**  
Northampton Square,  
London EC1V 0HB (071-  
477 8000)  
Established 1894 as  
Northampton Institute,  
university status 1966  
Full-time students: 1,443 (f),  
2,481 (m)  
1,303 arts, 1,303 arts  
Nearly half of the students are  
on postgraduate courses,  
mainly in the large schools of  
engineering and journalism  
or at the Barbican-based  
business school. The rest are  
in a cluster of sites on the  
borders of the City of London.  
Despite its origins as a college  
of advanced technology, the  
university now has almost as  
many students in the arts and  
social sciences as on the  
science side. It has acquired a  
strong reputation for music  
(BBC required) and business  
studies (BBC). City is also  
practising what it preaches in  
the management field  
through a business unit  
compared with a turnover of  
£7.5 million. Most courses  
have a vocational slant and  
many, like air transport  
engineering (BCC) and  
clinical communication  
studies, are highly specialised.

**COVENTRY**  
Priory Street, Coventry CV1  
5FB (0203 631313)  
Formerly Coventry  
Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 2,432 (f,  
2,908 (m)  
2,480 arts, 2,860 sciences  
A rough balance is  
maintained between arts and  
science students to preserve an  
all-round educational  
environment, while a highly  
flexible course programme is  
intended to suit individual  
students' needs. The  
generalist approach paid off  
with quality awards in seven  
of the nine academic areas  
last year. Engineering, social  
sciences, and art and design  
all fared particularly well.  
Coventry specialises in  
practical and socially-oriented  
activities, linking higher  
education with business and  
industry. This reputation has  
brought hundreds of  
managers from the former  
Soviet Union to the university  
it is even training Moscow  
street traders to sell baked  
potatoes. A former factory is  
being refurbished to add  
teaching rooms to the city-  
centre campus. The university  
has 1,500 residential places  
and 17 acres of sports  
facilities on the outskirts of  
Coventry.

**DE MONTFORT**  
The Gateway, Leicester LE1  
0116 (0533 551551)  
Formerly Leicester  
Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 4,060 (ff.  
5,104 (m)  
2,269 arts, 1,475 sciences  
like the 13th-century Earl of  
Leicester from whom it takes  
its name, De Montfort  
University has a field of  
ports: it is made up of a  
network of campuses in a 53-  
miles radius. Two campuses  
in Leicester will soon become  
three with the addition of a  
nursing and midwifery  
college, another is operating  
in Milton Keynes, and next  
year outposts will be added in  
Bedford and Lincolnshire.  
Law, mathematics, art and  
design and business studies  
are particularly strong. A wide  
spread of courses takes in  
more than 20 sub-degree  
courses and a number of  
postgraduate programmes.  
There are purpose-built  
student unions on all sites,  
and students who cannot live  
at home are guaranteed a  
residential place.



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UNIVERSITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON



**Traditional air: students at Bristol university's open day**

courses an international flavour, often involving a period of study on the Continent. Courses in science, business and management, art and design and health are all top-rated. Most of the 900 hall places are allocated to new students. As well as managing 1,500 residential places, students have access to a network of 3,000 landlords and landladies in Brighton and Eastbourne.

**BRISTOL**  
 Senate House, Bristol BS8  
 17H (0272 303030)  
 Established 1876  
 Full-time students: 4,034 (f),  
 5,231 (m)  
 3,669 arts, 4,185 sciences  
 A traditional Oxbridge  
 alternative emerging  
 apparently unscathed from  
 brief but serious financial  
 difficulties. A moderately  
 successful funding appeal  
 forms the basis for a new  
 phase of expansion in a  
 variety of subjects. Seven  
 areas were considered

Took its new name only last week after establishing a reputation as one of the leading polytechnics. A high ratio of applications to places is a further sign the new university is standing in a wide range of subjects. Information technology, business, social sciences and education courses have all won high ratings. There are four sites in the city in addition to the main campus at Frenchay, close to Bristol Parkway station, which also houses the new Higher Education Funding Council. With only 870 residential places, most students have to find rooms in a relatively expensive housing market. The new university is promising a continued emphasis on vocational education as "an engine for economic recovery". A new entrance system will credit vocational qualifications and practical experience equally with academic examination results, while franchising will multiply the number of



**DERBY**  
Kedleston Road, Derby  
DE3 1GB (0332 47181)  
Formerly Derbyshire College  
Full-time students: 1,985 (f),  
1,811 (m)

The newest of the new universities, Derby was the only higher education college to acquire a university title with the former polytechnics. It took until this summer to convince education ministers. The city had long claimed to be the largest in Europe without a major higher education institution. A high proportion of the students are local, 2,500 of them taking part-time courses. The academic programme is in the process of transition to a modular system. A new city-centre site will soon join the main campus, which overlooks rolling hills. Courses in photography, film and television studies, which are underpinned by a £1 million research centre, are highly rated. Engineering is also strong, and a new materials research group is rated fourth in the country by the Science and Engineering Research Council.

**DUNDEE**  
Dundee DD1 4HN (0382 23181)

Established 1882 as part of St Andrews University  
Full-time students: 2,545 (f), 3,054 (m)  
3,018 arts, 1,951 sciences  
A merger under discussion with neighbouring Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art would add almost 2,000 students, but for the moment Dundee remains relatively small. Only the medical school is outside the compact campus near the city centre. First-year students are guaranteed one of the 1,850 university's residential places, but one in five lives at home. Biochemistry is the flagship department (C2D required), and is recognised as one of Europe's leading centres for the subject. Psychology (BCC) and biological sciences (BCC) are also strong. The law department is the only one in Scotland to offer an English LLB, as well as Scottish and Northern Irish qualifications.

**DURHAM**

Old Shire Hall, Durham  
DH1 3HP (091 374 2000)  
Established 1832  
Full-time students: 2,924 (f), 3,163 (m)  
3,227 arts, 2,054 sciences  
Long established as a leading alternative to Oxbridge. Durham's collegiate structure and picturesque setting are further attractions to a predominantly middle-class student body. An insistence on interviews gives most applicants the chance to see if it is the place for them. Applications have to be made to one of the 12 colleges, although all teaching is done in central departments. Colleges range from 200 to 600 students, and all but one are mixed. The university finds accommodation for more than 4,000 of the 6,000 students, including all first-years. Music (BCC required), physics (BCC) and chemistry (CCD) are among the highly-rated degrees. The university also houses a branch of the Teikyo University of Japan, and has gone into partnership with Teesside University to establish a new University College in nearby Stockton.

**EAST ANGLIA**

Norwich NR4 7TJ (0603 56161)  
Established 1963  
Full-time students: 2,417 (f), 2,708 (m)  
2,786 arts, 1,377 sciences  
The university is in the throes of a big building programme to house the extra students it plans to take in. At the moment, the campus two miles from the centre of Norwich has 1,400 study bedrooms, and the university has enough elsewhere to guarantee first-years a place. Schools of studies encourage broad combinations of subjects. The biggest are economic and social studies, English and American studies and the rapidly developing health-related studies. Environmental sciences (AAB required for four-year course including a year in the US) and art history (BBC) are strong subjects. Malcolm

Bradbury's association with the creative writing course has attracted a string of big names and made English courses particularly popular.

**EAST LONDON**

Romford Road, London E15 4LZ (081-590 7722)  
Formerly Polytechnic of East London  
Full-time students: 3,560 (f), 3,550 (m)  
3,500 arts, 3,600 sciences  
Once known as a pathfinder polytechnic, some of the innovative features, such as the School for Independent Study, have been fading recently. The polytechnic came in for criticism from the Council for National Academic Awards before university status arrived. Only the sandwich courses in art and design won a quality award last year. Inspectors found fault with the systems and computing, business studies and manufacturing systems last year. The previous director, Gerry Fowler, resigned suddenly in 1991. His successor is trying to weld together an institution sprawling over six sites. Two new halls will add 500 places to the 1,300 already owned or controlled by the university. Priority goes to those who live farthest away.

**EDINBURGH**

Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL (031-650 1000)  
Established 1583  
Full-time students: 5,748 (f), 6,766 (m)  
5,274 arts, 4,891 sciences  
Scotland's leading university, in spite of a cash crisis which prompted a freeze on staff appointments last year. Most faculties border the historic Old Town, apart from science two miles to the south. Sir David Smith, the principal, has introduced radical changes, including a green initiative, which covers teaching, research and even student behaviour. Notable among the large number of subjects with high reputations are medicine (AAB), languages (BBC for Chinese) and philosophy (BBC). Edinburgh has one of the largest residential building programmes of any university to supplement 2,000 hall places. There are outstanding library facilities and a well-organised students' association. Cosmopolitan, with 15 per cent of students coming from overseas.

**ESSEX**

Wivenhoe Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ (0206 873333)  
Established 1965  
Full-time students: 1,694 (f), 2,374 (m)  
2,096 arts, 1,019 sciences  
The university is only now living down a rebellious reputation from the 1960s and 1970s. It is becoming better known for high-quality research, especially in the social sciences (BCC for sociology). Electronic engineering (BCC), computer science (BCC) and linguistics (BCC) are also strong. Still one of the smaller universities, Essex's glass and concrete buildings are showing signs of a quarter century of wear. Teaching and administration blocks cluster around a network of squares on the outskirts of Colchester, with most of the university's 2,500 residential places nearby. More are being built. Many of the lecturers were graduate students of the high-flying young academics attracted to Essex by its pioneering broad approach to subjects. Most undergraduates follow a common first year before specialising in their chosen discipline.

**EXETER**

Northcote House, Queen's Drive, Exeter EX4 4QJ (0392 263263)  
Established 1955  
Full-time students: 3,201 (f), 3,118 (m)  
3,633 arts, 1,539 sciences  
One of the most popular universities, Exeter is still trying to shed the image of a public school alternative to Oxbridge, which led it to set a quota of state-school places at one time in the 1980s. The campus is one of the most attractive in Britain, and more than half the



Cosmopolitan history: the leading university in Scotland, Edinburgh has an excellent reputation for medicine, languages and philosophy

## Traditional edge maintained

Edinburgh emerges as the top university outside Oxford and Cambridge in the *Times* rankings. Only Imperial College, London, amasses more points. Edinburgh's traditional strength in research, high entry standards and favourable staffing levels pulled it clear of Warwick at the top of the table. It also ranks well ahead of Glasgow and St Andrews as the leading university in Scotland. Measures taken to overcome a financial crisis which hit the university two years ago have not yet worked through into the figures on which the rankings are based. Sir David Smith, the principal, told staff last month that cost-cutting and income generation which have seen a recovery plan implemented a year ahead of

### TOP 10 NON-OXBRIDGE

1. Edinburgh
2. Warwick
3. London
4. Bristol
5. Durham
6. York
7. Manchester
8. Bath
9. Glasgow
10. Sussex

schedule will not reduce the university's quality. The rankings confirm some widely held views on the leading alternatives to Oxbridge. Both Bristol and Durham, for example, appear near the top of the table. But there are surprises elsewhere. Four of what were called "the new universities" until the polytechnics were promoted feature in the top ten: York, Bath and Sussex join Warwick on the list.

The aggregate of its many colleges' scores would put London fourth. The university itself regards such calculations as meaningless, such is the autonomy of the colleges, but its position reflects its high standing within the university community. If judged separately, four London colleges would be in the top ten, the LSE, Univer-

sity College and King's joining Imperial. London's specialist institutes, not listed separately, help to boost the university's position. The high weighting given to entry standards and research works against the former polytechnics. As a result, almost all the traditional universities rank ahead of the newcomers. Only the University of Ulster, which remains true to the principles of its polytechnic past, slips below any of the new universities. The big civic universities, for so long the backbone of the university system, also suffer in the rankings. Although Bristol, Manchester, Southampton, Glasgow and Liverpool make the top ten when the London colleges are removed, Leeds, Sheffield and Birmingham would probably have been higher up the table in previous years. Although their performance is uneven, technological universities appear to be well served by the measures chosen for the rankings. The high proportion of first-class degrees, consistently good

employment prospects and high research income associated with their main subjects all work in their favour. A combination of these factors seems to outweigh generally lower entrance requirements in science and technology. Thus the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, Loughborough, Strathclyde and Surrey rank above strong arts-based universities such as Essex, Exeter and East Anglia. In many cases, however, differences in performance are minimal. Seven points out of 1,000 covers six of the top 20 universities, for example; five points cover eight others further down the table. The refusal of a number of the traditional universities to correct scores they believed to be inaccurate may have denied some a higher position.

were up by 20 per cent last year. About a third of the undergraduates are on four-year degrees, which start with a general foundation year. Most students combine two main subjects with a subsidiary from the other side of the arts/science divide. Next October will see a switch to modular courses and two 15-week semesters, replacing the conventional three-term year. Keele has one of the largest and most scenic campuses in Britain, just off the M6 near Stoke, which accommodates more than 70 per cent of its students. International relations (BCC), dual honours degrees, including politics and music, are among the university's strengths.

**KENT**

Canterbury CT2 7NZ (0227 764000)  
Full-time students: 2,510 (f), 2,802 (m)  
3,071 arts, 1,191 sciences  
Pioneering among the traditional universities for its flexible degree programmes and European emphasis. Interdisciplinary study is encouraged, and a number of courses include the option of a year in Europe. Almost a quarter of the students take a language. Stronger in arts than sciences, social policy and administration (three Cs) is the top-rated research field. Students are attached to one of the four colleges, which include lecture theatres as well as study bedrooms and social facilities. The campus, overlooking Canterbury, can accommodate all first-years. It has a cosmopolitan feel, enhanced by the presence of Chaucer College, an independent Japanese university, which opens tomorrow. The university is popular with Americans, and numbered 83 different nationalities among last year's student body.

**KINGSTON**

Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2EE (081-547 2000)  
Formerly Kingston Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,181 (f), 4,744 (m)  
4,022 arts, 3,903 sciences  
Kingston topped the polytechnics' quality ratings for two years in succession. Only the health and social services courses failed to score in 1991-92, despite almost doubling the number of students in five years without expanding the staff. Growth will be slower in the next few years, but the new university still expects to extend the teaching day to 12 hours and the academic year to 50 weeks to cope. It also hopes to use its growing reputation in research to win a slice of the older universities' funds. The four sites in southwest London are linked by an extensive computer network. First-years are given priority for the 900 residential places.

**CENTRAL LANCASHIRE**

Preston PR1 2QT (0772 201201)  
Formerly Lancashire (originally Preston) Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,974 (f), 4,015 (m)  
4,554 arts, 3,435 sciences  
Large construction projects on the single campus in Preston have produced more teaching space and some 1,150 residential places to stave off what has become an annual accommodation crisis. Students are unlikely to miss the holiday camp at Morecombe, which has been pressed into service for the last two years. A network of colleges throughout the North West allows part-time students to start degrees in local colleges. About 40 per cent of the rest come from central Lancashire towns. The new university is strong in art, design and astronomy, and is expanding its health-related activities through a partnership with Royal Preston Hospital.

Continued on page 38

students are in university accommodation. The highly rated school of education is on a separate campus in the city, and the university has also established a foothold in Cornwall by taking in the Cornwall School of Mines. The Northcote Theatre, on the main campus, is one of the cultural centres of the region. There is a long tradition of European integration, exemplified in the European law degree (AAB required). Although it is generally stronger in arts subjects, psychology is highly rated.

**GLAMORGAN**

Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan CF37 1DL (0443 480480)  
Formerly The Polytechnic of Wales  
Full-time students: 1,995 (f), 3,781 (m)  
2,631 arts, 3,145 sciences  
Wales's second university used to be the smallest of the polytechnics. A 12-mile train ride out of Cardiff, the campus overlooks the market town of Pontypridd. Some students prefer to live in the capital because accommodation is scarce in the town. The university has only 500 hall places and would like to build more if it had the money. Recent spending has been on a new sports hall to capitalise on a fine sporting tradition, especially in rugby. The new university plans to retain its vocational slant, and is expanding its influence throughout the principality by franchising part-time courses to further education colleges. The best-known degrees are in engineering and professional studies, but the separate Welsh higher education system has prevented them from being judged against English equivalents.

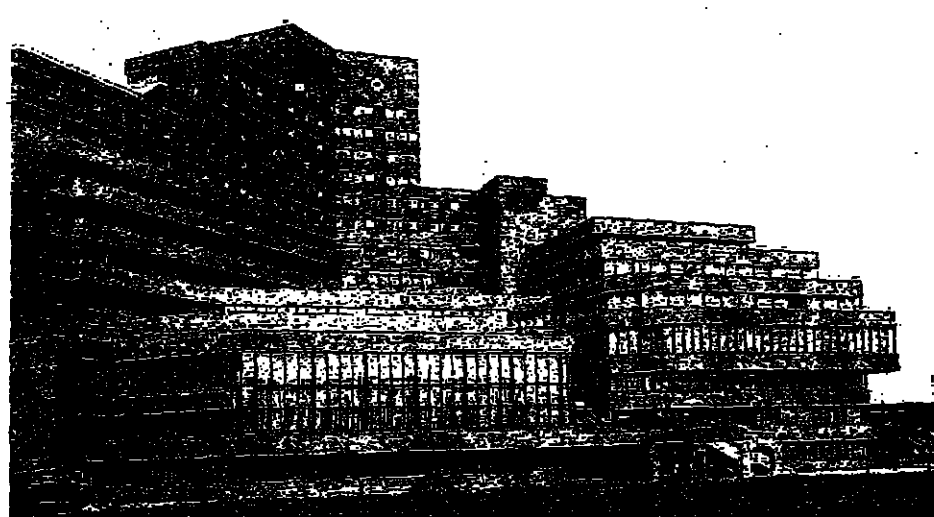
**GLASGOW POLY/QUEEN'S COLLEGE**

70 Cowcaddens Road, Glasgow G4 0BA (041-331 3000)  
Established 1875 (Queen's), 1972 (polytechnic), merger 1992  
Full-time students (poly only): 1,869 (f), 2,397 (m)  
2,097 arts, 2,169 sciences  
Still waiting for approval for a new name following a summer merger. The proposed Queen's University, Glasgow, brought objections from Belfast. The new university will be strongly vocational. Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, has enthused about the potential of links between the polytechnic's science and management and Queen's College's health care and business studies. More than £11 million has been spent on new laboratories for health, science, engineering and construction. A unique degree in risk management is popular, and the polytechnic pioneered credit transfer in Scotland. The three sites range from the city centre to the tree-lined West End and the outlying Southbrae. There

places, with priority going to overseas students.

**GLASGOW**

Glasgow G12 8QQ (041-339 8855)  
Established 1451  
Full-time students: 5,861 (f), 6,915 (m)  
5,048 arts, 6,323 sciences  
Scotland's largest university and one of the oldest: it was the first in Britain to have a school of engineering. Strengths include medicine (three Bs), electrical engineering (two Cs), genetics (CCD) and veterinary science (AAB). The compact campus is in the city's lively West End, with the vets on a greenfield site four miles away. Most of the university's 3,000 residential places are within easy walking distance of the main campus. First-years are guaranteed a place if they live outside daily commuting distance. Students choose between two independent student unions, until recently segregated by sex. The library is large with some valuable collections and



Original poly: Huddersfield leans to the arts, and is highly rated for engineering

has 2,500 workspaces.

**GREENWICH**

Welling Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6PF (081-316 8000)  
Formerly Thames Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,487 (f), 4,906 (m)  
2,839 arts, 3,088 sciences  
The former Thames Polytechnic grew over the years by absorbing a number of colleges of art and education. There are outposts in Docklands and Dartford, Kent, but an imaginative deal with the local authority has ensured that the new university will remain on Thameside. Relocation to Kent was considered in order to exploit growing links with European institutions. There are formal exchange arrangements with universities or colleges in France, Germany, Greece, Spain and Ireland. The polytechnic did well in last year's quality assessments, with awards in five out of the eight programmes in which courses are offered. Engineering and technology, science and education fared particularly well. Architecture and some business and management courses are also

apply by early September. Heriot-Watt has been a leader in the use of information technology for teaching, harnessing the most advanced computer learning facilities to allow students to work at their own pace. A huge research and development programme with the computer giant Digital has helped.

**HERTFORDSHIRE**

College Lane, Hatfield, Hertfordshire (0707 284000)  
Formerly Hatfield Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,978 (f), 5,286 (m)  
4,313 arts, 4,951 sciences  
One of the few genuinely rural universities, Hertfordshire has five spacious sites, in Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead and Wall Hall, near the M1. Most of the 1,600 hall places are reserved for first-years. The university's reputation is built on engineering, science and computing, but health, arts and humanities have been built up recently. European links are a speciality, with 40 universities and colleges operating exchange programmes. Almost half of the undergraduates take a

education. First-year students are given priority for the 1,000 hall places, most of which are close to the crowded town centre campus. A new students' union has opened this year. Further building is planned to continue the consistent growth of recent years.

**HULL**

Hull HU6 7RX (0482 46311)  
Established 1928, royal charter 1954  
Full-time students: 3,403 (f), 3,270 (m)  
3,767 arts, 1,980 sciences  
Although neither could be described as fashionable, both the university and the city of Hull inspire strong loyalty among students. Philip Larkin, who was the university librarian, once said: "People are slow to leave it, quick to return." One reason for applying is the cost of living. Hall fees have been the lowest of the traditional universities, and private rents are low. First-years are guaranteed one of the university's 2,750 residential places. Strength in politics (BBC) is reflected in 13 graduates in the House of Commons, "Euro-

every modern European language except Greek can be taken at degree level. Electronic engineering (CCD) and engineering design manufacture (three Cs) are among the most highly-regarded courses.

**HUMBERSIDE**

Cottingham Road, Hull HU6 7RX (0482 440550)  
Formerly Humberside Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 3,822 (f), 3,616 (m)  
5,804 arts, 1,634 sciences  
A heavy preponderance of arts and social-science students betrays the university's origins as a collection of arts-based colleges in the 1970s. After only two years as a polytechnic, Humberside is relying on innovative teaching techniques and international links to build its reputation. The university won £1 million from BP to appoint a professor of learning development. Computer-assisted learning and lectures via satellite will be among the developments designed to cater for a fast-growing student population. Humberside's European commitment outstrips even that of Hull University, which is literally next door. There are more than 60 formal links, and the university is a leading participant in EC programmes. Six sites in Hull and one in Grimsby include fewer than 700 hall places, although there is no shortage of affordable private accommodation. Only the science courses received quality awards last year.

**KEELE**

Keele, Staffordshire ST5 5BG (0782 621111)  
Founded 1949  
Full-time students: 2,301 (f), 2,071 (m)  
2,398 arts, 538 sciences  
Topped a funding council "worry list" two years ago, but is now out of the red, helped by the biggest increase in teaching budget for any university. New admissions



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**LANCASTER**  
University House, Lancaster  
LA1 4YW (0524 65201)  
Established 1964  
Full-time students: 2,851 (f),  
2,895 (m)  
3,214 arts, 1,260 sciences  
Like the other 1960s  
universities, Lancaster has  
always traded on a flexible  
degree structure. Students  
take three subjects in their  
first year. Only at the end of it  
must they select one. A fifth  
of the entrants are mature  
students, thanks largely to an  
innovative scheme which  
allows adults to join through  
their local college. Half of the  
students are accommodated in  
the eight campus colleges.  
First years are guaranteed a  
place. Accountancy (BBC  
required) is the top  
department in Britain for  
research. Religious study  
(BCD), biochemistry,  
sociology and environmental  
science (all BCC) are also  
highly rated.

**LEEDS**  
Leeds, LS2 9JT (0532  
431751)  
Established 1874 as college of  
science  
Full-time students: 5,901 (f),  
7,708 (m)  
5,365 arts, 5,971 sciences  
The biggest of the civic  
universities, Leeds occupies a  
140-acre site near the city  
centre and the former  
polytechnic. It claims that its  
variety of courses is as great as  
any British rival's. Education,  
geography (three Bs),  
mechanical engineering  
(three Cs) and geology (CCD)  
are among the favoured  
areas. The Brotherton Library  
is one of the top university  
libraries, and students have  
access to more than 1,000  
computer terminals. First-year  
students are guaranteed a  
residential place, and most  
then move into the relatively  
cheap private sector.

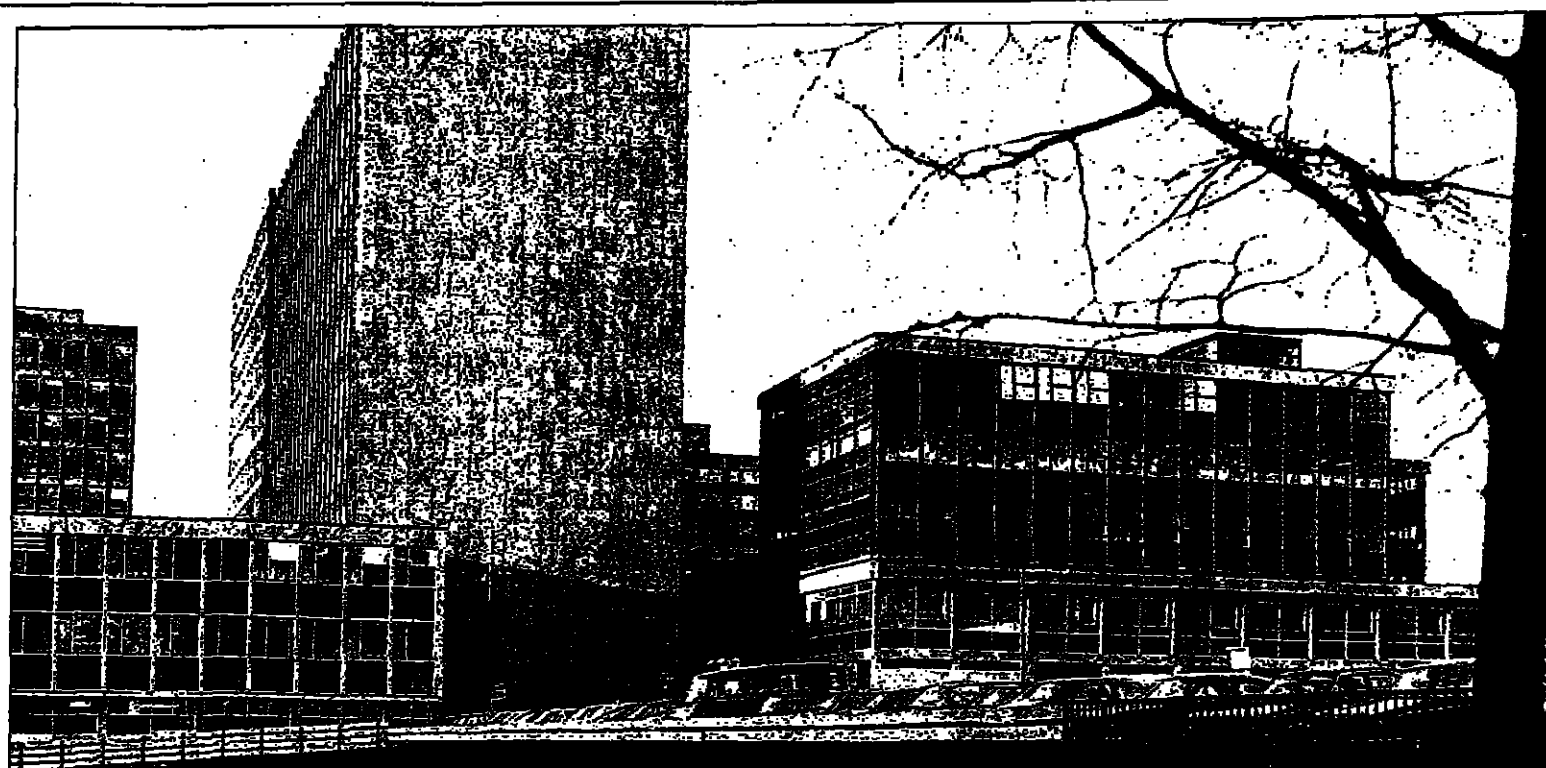
**LEEDS METROPOLITAN**  
Calverley Street, Leeds LS1  
3HE (0532 832600)  
Formerly Leeds Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 4,668 (f),  
4,646 (m)  
5,370 arts, 3,944 sciences  
Top of the new universities in  
our ranking, despite doing  
only moderately well in the  
polytechnics' last quality  
ratings. The Metropolitan has  
19,000 students when part-  
timers are included and  
expects to become even  
bigger. As a result, large sums  
of money have been invested  
in new teaching methods.  
Students are likely to come  
face to face with a computer  
or a video almost as often as a  
lecturer. Hotel catering, sport  
and recreation, personnel  
management, and

environmental studies are all  
well regarded. Almost all of  
the 800 hall places are  
reserved for first-years, while  
an accommodation agency  
run jointly with Leeds  
University helps the rest.

**LEICESTER**  
University Road, Leicester  
LE1 7RH (0533 522522)  
Established 1918, royal  
charter 1954  
Full-time students: 3,381 (f),  
3,512 (m)  
2,826 arts, 2,593 sciences  
Leicester has almost doubled  
its student numbers in three  
years and plans to have  
10,000 places by the end of  
the decade. For the moment,  
however, it can still supply  
accommodation for all new  
students. Although few  
departments reached the top  
rungs of the last research  
rankings, the university did  
well in this year's funding  
allocations for both teaching  
and research. It is a leader in  
space science (BCC with  
physics), and the medical  
school, built in the 1970s, is  
the newest in the country.  
There has been a recent  
proliferation of research  
centres, including one for  
mass communications, which  
has produced strong  
undergraduate courses in all  
aspects of the media. Most  
teaching and residential  
accommodation is  
concentrated in a leafy suburb  
a mile from the city centre.

**LIVERPOOL**  
PO Box 147, Liverpool L69  
3BX  
Established 1881  
Full-time students: 4,871 (f),  
5,553 (m)  
4,023 arts, 4,598 sciences  
Liverpool is another big  
university that has  
experienced recent financial  
difficulties. However, only six  
universities received more  
from the research councils in  
1990-91, and money for  
teaching has been boosted this  
year. Hispanic studies  
(BCD), physics,  
pharmacology and nursing  
(all three Cs) are highly rated,  
but the university prides itself  
in offering a full range of  
subjects. Liverpool was  
among the first traditional  
universities to run access  
courses for adults without  
traditional academic  
qualifications. Now 15 per  
cent of the students are aged  
over 21 at entry. The 2,300  
hall places, which can  
accommodate all first-years,  
are some distance away.

**LIVERPOOL JOHN  
MOORES**  
Rodney House, 70 Mount  
Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5UX  
(051 231 2121)  
Formerly Liverpool



Top rating: Leeds Metropolitan has scored well on all-round strength and its record of employment prospects after six months is high

## New missions shun old rivalries

Understandably, the new universities are reluctant to be judged on the criteria generally applied to their older counterparts. The former polytechnics have their own distinct missions, which are not supposed to change with the acquisition of new titles. There can be little doubt, however, that a pecking order of universities will emerge from an expanded sector. In the United States, where university rankings originated, research-dominated institutions continue to carry the highest prestige. Some of the new universities boycotted the guide, but most eventually agreed to validate the statistics used to compile the tables. Polytechnic statistics were not all collected on the same basis as those for the universities, and some institutions insisted that they did not have some of the information required. Other measures, notably the comparisons of research income and A-level entry grades, were unpopular throughout the new universities. Because of the large concentrations of mature students, the majority of candidates in many of the former polytechnics are not admitted on the basis of A-level grades, although school-leavers generally are. Vocational qualifications and practical experience are common currency. The new universities are not as open as the old about

### TOP-TEN NEWCOMERS

1. Leeds Metropolitan
2. Coventry
3. Hertfordshire
4. Portsmouth
5. West of England Oxford Brookes
6. Kingston
7. Manchester Met.
8. Central England Middlesex
9. Sheffield Hallam
10. The Open University

the grades they require from school leavers, but inevitably they tend to be lower. The polytechnics' rapid expansion has opened up higher education to many

students who would not have won a traditional university place. However, some of their courses can and do require high grades.

Christopher Price, who is vice-chancellor of Leeds Metropolitan University, was one of the objectors, arguing that the indicators in the guide were more appropriate for the traditional universities. Ironically, however, his own institution is the highest placed of the new universities in the rankings.

Leeds Metropolitan scored on all-round strength, especially in terms of employment prospects six months after graduation. Its staffing levels are also more generous than some of the older universities, whereas they have been

pared to the bone in many of the former polytechnics.

Coventry, Hertfordshire, Portsmouth, Bristol and Oxford, which follow Leeds in the table, all had established reputations for quality as polytechnics. None can yet compete with the leading traditional universities on entry standards, staffing levels or research. Consequently, no new university appears in the top 50 of the main ranking.

Many of the new universities are closely bunched in the main table. Central England, Manchester Metropolitan, Middlesex and Sheffield Hallam, for example, all achieve the same score, as do City Polytechnic, Central Lancashire, Greenwich and Liverpool John Moores.

**UCL**  
Gower Street, London WC1E  
6BT (071-387 7050)  
Established 1826  
Full-time students: 4,269 (f),  
4,757 (m)  
3,221 arts, 3,407 sciences  
Another of London's  
academic powerhouses,  
University College London  
likes to describe itself as "a  
university within a university"  
because of its size and breadth  
of expertise. It is the largest  
college of London University,  
with a history of pioneering  
subjects that have become  
established features of  
modern higher education.  
Anatomy (three Cs),  
pharmacology (BCC), physics  
(three Cs), computer science  
(BCC), several branches of  
engineering, geography  
(BCC), law (ABB), modern  
languages, anthropology,  
archaeology (BCD), history  
and the creative arts have all  
received top ratings for  
research. A growing number  
of degrees now take four  
years. The college already has  
more than 3,000 residential  
places, so all first-years are  
guaranteed accommodation,  
and many stay on to avoid the  
expensive private housing  
market in central London.  
The number of places is due  
to increase further in the next  
few years.

**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
Loughborough LE11 3TU  
(0509 263171)  
Established as college of  
advanced technology, royal  
charter 1966  
Full-time students: 2,155 (f),  
4,815 (m)  
2,942 arts, 2,965 sciences  
Perhaps best known for its  
successes on the sports field,  
Loughborough is acquiring a  
growing academic reputation,  
reflected in its position in the  
top 20 in our ranking. Already  
expanding, the university  
specialises in teaching after  
a moderate showing in the  
last national assessment of  
research. Proposals for a  
merger with Leicester  
University were rejected  
earlier this year, so  
Loughborough is planning to  
expand on its own. There  
were more than 1,100  
applications for 41 places to  
study physical education,  
sports science and recreation  
management (BBC) last year.  
Electronic (BCC) and  
automotive (BBC)  
engineering are also popular,  
as is European business (also  
BBC). Almost 80 per cent of  
undergraduates live on the  
campus, a mile outside the  
small town and close to both  
Leicester and Nottingham.  
The indoor and outdoor  
sports facilities are arguably  
the best in Britain.

**MANCHESTER**  
Manchester M13 9PL (061-  
275 2000)  
Established 1851, royal  
charter 1903  
Full-time students: 5,708 (f),  
7,401 (m)  
5,636 arts, 5,819 sciences  
Manchester is recovering  
from a difficult period without  
a vice-chancellor, in which it  
has suffered in funding  
allocations for both teaching  
and research. A decision not  
to expand too rapidly beyond  
its already considerable size  
backfired, and Manchester is  
an unexpected absentee from  
our top ten. Nevertheless, the  
university's reputation ensures  
that applicants remain of  
high quality across the full  
range of disciplines, and it is  
still sixth in the research  
councils' list of favoured  
universities, despite a steady  
decline over the last decade.  
Anthropology (three Bs),  
dentistry, nursing and  
computation (all BCC) are  
among the top courses. The  
business school has been  
rated among the best in  
Europe. The education  
precinct, close to the city  
centre, takes in three  
universities and the teaching  
hospitals. Student  
accommodation is shared  
with UMIST and includes the  
biggest student village in  
Britain, allowing all first-years  
a place. The library is one of  
the largest in the country.

**ROYAL HOLLOWAY  
AND BEDFORD**  
Egham Hill, Egham, Surrey  
TW20 0EX (0784 434455)  
Established 1849 (Bedford),  
1886 (Royal Holloway),  
merged 1985  
Full-time students: 1,993 (f),  
1,722 (m)  
1,942 arts, 1,442 sciences  
A 100-acre wooded campus  
between Heathrow and  
Windsor Castle includes  
classic Victorian in the  
Founder's Building. A £24-  
million building programme  
in the 1980s added new  
buildings for the earth  
sciences, life sciences,  
mathematics and computing,  
history and social policy. A  
new hall and flats have  
brought the number of  
residential places to almost  
2,000, ensuring that every  
first-year can be  
accommodated. A new  
students' union building has  
also been added, despite  
financial problems. English  
(ABC), classics (BCC) and  
theatre studies (ABC) are  
among the top degrees,  
although the college is one of  
five on which the university  
has chosen to concentrate  
science teaching and research.  
The 18 academic  
departments carry out a lot of  
inter-disciplinary work, and  
the college also takes  
advantage of intercollegiate  
teaching arrangements.

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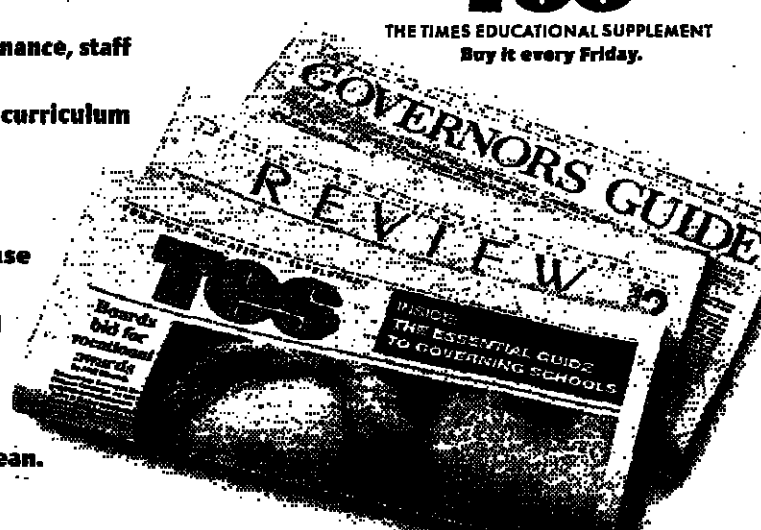
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**LONDON**  
Senate House, Malet Street,  
London WC1E 7HU (071-  
636 8000)  
Established 1836  
Full-time students: 23,847 (f),  
27,545 (m)  
The federal university is  
Britain's biggest by far. The  
colleges are bound together  
by the London degree, which  
has worldwide currency.  
Recent reforms have given  
more autonomy to the schools  
and colleges, which are  
responsible both for the  
university's academic strength  
and its apparently precarious  
financial position.

**GOLDSMITHS'**  
Lewisham Way, New Cross,  
London SE14 6NW (081-  
692 7171)  
Established 1891, royal  
charter 1990  
Full-time students: 2,357 (f),  
1,269 (m)  
2,339 arts, 397 sciences  
London University's newest  
college has a long history of  
community-based courses,  
mainly in education and the  
arts. Evening classes are as  
well patronised as the  
conventional courses.  
Although there are fewer than  
1,000 residential places, most  
undergraduates from outside  
the London area can be  
accommodated. There is a  
new library on the  
cosmopolitan campus in a less  
than picturesque part of  
southeast London. The  
college has a well-established  
reputation in the visual arts  
(BBC for communications  
studies), having nurtured  
both Graham Sutherland and  
Mary Quant over the years.  
Education, which caters for  
primary school teachers, is  
also well regarded.

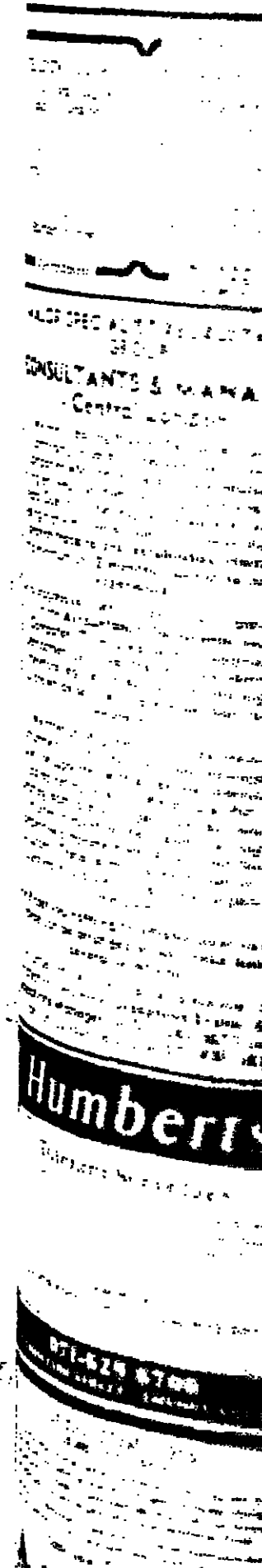
**IMPERIAL**  
South Kensington, London  
SW7 2AZ (071-589 5111)  
Established 1907  
Full-time students: 1,306 (f),  
4,570 (m)  
3,842 sciences  
Imperial rivals Oxbridge for  
the quality of its science  
teaching and research. The  
addition in 1988 of St Mary's  
Hospital medical school filled  
the last significant gap in its  
portfolio of courses. More  
than 600 academic staff  
include Nobel prize-winners  
and many fellows of the Royal  
Society. Most of the college's  
departments were rated as  
internationally outstanding in  
the last research rankings.  
Since then, engineering  
degrees have been  
strengthened by the addition  
of an extra year (ABC for  
electrical, AAC for  
aeronautical engineering),  
and more students have been  
given the opportunity to  
spend a year abroad as part  
of their course. The campus,  
in the museum district of west  
London, includes almost  
1,000 residential places,  
enough to guarantee  
accommodation to students  
from outside the capital.  
Women are given priority.

**KING'S**  
The Strand, London WC2R  
2LS (071-836 5454)  
Established 1829

science, and art and design.  
Full-time students: 3,789 (f),  
3,667 (m)  
1,984 arts, 3,592 sciences  
Second largest of London's  
colleges since merging with  
Chelsea and Queen Elizabeth.  
More than 60 departments  
offer almost 200 degrees, and  
more than half of the students  
graduating in 1991 were  
awarded first or upper second  
class honours. Complex and  
ill-timed property deals will  
eventually see the college  
concentrated around The  
Strand. Residential places are  
more widely spread, although  
a new student village in  
Hampstead should enable the  
college to continue  
guaranteeing each student at  
least one year in hall,  
regardless of home address.  
War studies (BCC), theology  
and classics (both three Cs),  
education, philosophy (BBC),  
and the creative arts are the  
top-rated departments. An  
early convert to modular  
degrees, the college has flirted  
with the possibility of two-year  
degrees this year during a  
turbulent period which saw  
the resignation of the  
principal.

**LSE**  
Houghton Street, London  
WC2A 2AE (071-405 7686)  
Established 1895  
Full-time students: 1,701 (f),  
2,454 (m)  
2,268 arts, 94 sciences  
Rebuffed by the government  
in its bid for County Hall, the  
London School of Economics  
is now rethinking its strategy  
to break out from its cramped  
site next to the Law Courts.  
Proposals to divide the  
institution into  
undergraduate and graduate  
schools have been dropped.  
But John Ashworth, the  
school's high profile director,  
still wants to concentrate on  
masters' degrees. The effect  
may be to make the LSE even  
more difficult to get into,  
although a 50 per cent  
expansion over the next four  
years should help. The school  
already has the highest  
proportion of overseas  
students in Britain, swelling  
the ranks of future political  
leaders to follow several  
already in place. The alumni  
also include 50 serving MPs.  
The areas of study range  
much more broadly than the  
school's title implies. Law,  
social history, anthropology,  
social policy, accountancy and  
history are all internationally  
recognised, in addition to  
pure economics and politics.  
Most of the 1,000 residential  
places — enough to guarantee  
accommodation for first-years  
from outside London — are  
within a mile of the school.

**QUEEN MARY &  
WESTFIELD**  
Mile End Road, London E1  
4NS (071-975 5555)  
Established 1882 (Westfield),  
1887 (Queen Mary), merged  
1989  
Full-time students: 2,230 (f),  
3,224 (m)  
2,101 arts, 2,401 sciences  
Arts-based Westfield from  
gentle Hampstead has been  
dominated by its scientific  
partner from the East End.  
Westfield staff have fought a





**UMIST**  
PO Box 88, Sackville Street,  
Manchester M60 1QD (061-  
236 3311)  
Established 1824, faculty of  
Manchester University since  
1905  
Full-time students: 1,472 (B),  
3,754 (M)  
930 arts, 2,999 sciences  
University of Manchester  
Institute of Science and  
Technology graduates were  
rated employers' favourites in  
one business survey this year,  
just as the institute picked up  
a Queen's Award for export  
achievement. Both were a  
reflection of the high quality  
in a faculty that is financially  
independent of its parent  
university. Engineering (BBC  
for chemical courses) and  
metallurgy (CCD) are the  
main strengths. Social  
sciences, management and  
linguistics are also available,  
and students have access to  
Europe's largest computer  
centre and a new £4-million  
library. All first-year students  
are guaranteed residential  
places and have a personal  
tutor on the academic staff.

**MANCHESTER  
METROPOLITAN**  
All Saints Building, Oxford  
Road, Manchester M15 6BH  
(061-247 2000)  
Formerly Manchester  
Polytechnic  
Full-time students: 6,240 (B),  
4,527 (M)  
7,848 arts, 2,919 sciences  
The largest of the new  
universities got even larger  
this month with the addition  
of Crewe and Alsager College.  
Including the many part-  
timers, there will now be  
25,000 students on five sites,  
the others in and around  
Manchester, where a third of  
the students have their homes.  
More than 300 courses are  
available in 50 different  
subject areas. Teaching  
strengths are in engineering,  
hotel and catering, retail  
marketing, and education,  
which was already rated top  
of the new universities before  
the addition of Crewe and  
Alsager. There are more than  
2,000 residential places,  
mostly reserved for first-years,  
but the city's huge student  
population makes for fierce  
competition in the private  
sector. The students' union is  
a multimillion pound  
operation serving all sites.

**MIDDLESEX**  
White Hart Lane, London

## Breaking new ground for learning

A once derelict site has been transformed into a £12 million high-tech university college

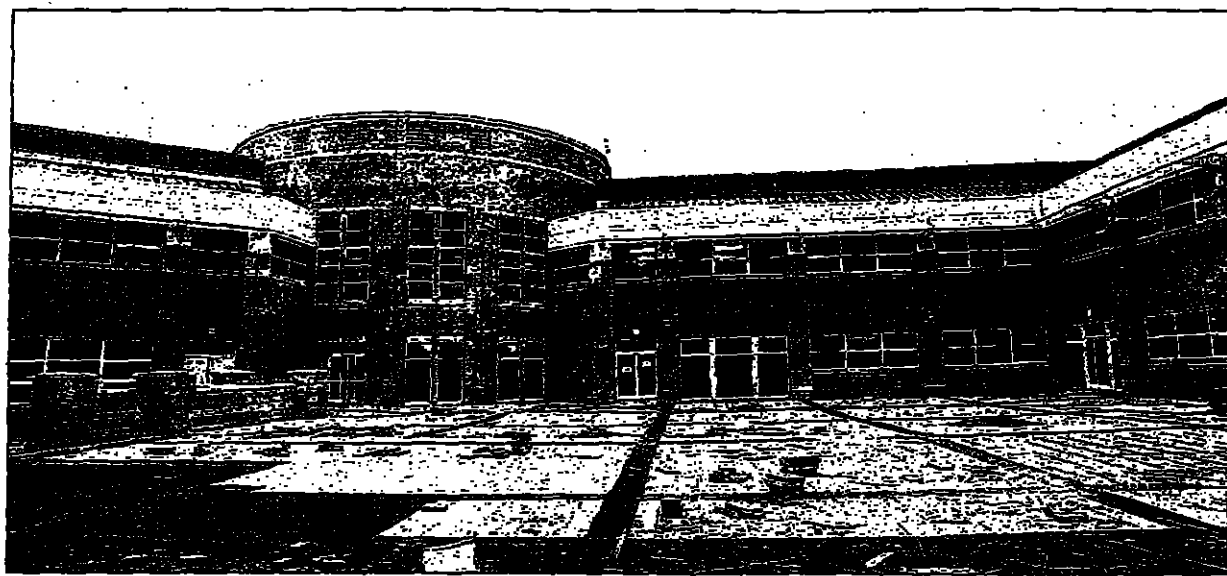
Five years almost to the month after Baroness Thatcher made her famous handbag and hand-hat march across a derelict industrial site on Teesside to declare that the government's rejuvenation of Britain's inner cities had begun, the desolate northern riverbank has been transformed. Instead of a building shipyard, a £12 million purpose-built, high-technology university college has appeared. The first such higher education development in the United Kingdom for 25 years. Today 180 students will register for courses on a campus which is unique because it is the first joint venture by two existing universities — in this case Durham and Teesside — to provide undergraduate degree studies.

University College, Stockton-on-Tees, is also unique in being the first joint project between an educational establishment and a government-sponsored urban development corporation. Teesside UDC has provided the building and land on a 999-year lease. It sees a university as a high-profile jewel in its plans to turn the 100-acre site into a community of shops, businesses, leisure facilities and homes.

Jim Lewis, the college's vice-principal, says the curriculum has been aimed at businesses and the local community. Almost half the first intake are local.

It will be firmly rooted in the sunrise industries which have replaced steelmaking and shipbuilding along the Tees. Information technology will be compulsory for all freshmen, and students will have computer terminals in their rooms linked to the college for private study.

The college also has a teleconference centre which will allow students access to 5,000 academic staff at both parent universities and other organisations. It should also make the college attractive to the lucrative corporate conference market. It is no coincidence that an interna-



Unique: University College, Stockton-on-Tees, is the first joint venture of its type by two existing universities

tional-grade hotel is planned for an adjacent site. Teesside's biggest employer, ICI, has seconded a project manager, Rennie May, to run the college's external fundraising. "Sponsorship will make the difference, for example, between whether we furnish our laboratories with second-hand equipment gathered from the parent universities and elsewhere or install the latest,

state of the art." Already £250,000 worth of computer terminals, donated by Sun Microsystems, has been provided, and some of the technical equipment in the laboratories is comparable with the best in commercial use.

There are four main courses: human sciences, environmental technology and management and European studies. All are arranged in a series of modules, which will allow some part-time study and also permit students to take shorter courses for the lesser qualifications of certificates or diplomas. Mr Lewis envisages a rapid expansion of the college. Student numbers should rise to 1,500 by 1995, and new courses covering human biology, theatre and the media are planned. About 30 acres across the Tees have been earmarked for new buildings.

The speed of construction of the college was phenomenal. Although talks between Durham and what was then Middlebrough's polytechnic began soon after the former prime minister's 1987 visit, formal government approval was not granted until last year. Construction on the 44-acre site did not begin until January this year.

PAUL WILKINSON

home and abroad. A campus has opened recently in Carlisle, serving a county without a university of its own, and centres have been established in Moscow and Hong Kong. A third domestic campus, three miles from the university's city-centre headquarters, contains the bulk of the 1,500 residential places, for which first-years are given priority. As a polytechnic the institution nurtured its relations with the local community and encouraged applications from students without traditional academic qualifications. The new university is committed to the same approach. The fashion school is perhaps the university's best-known feature, and the school of art and design is well regarded. The polytechnic had more quality awards than most of its rivals last year.

**NOTTINGHAM**  
University Park, Nottingham  
NG7 2RD (0602 484848)  
Established 1881, royal  
charter 1948  
Full-time students: 4,080 (B),  
5,440 (M)  
3,488 arts, 4,326 sciences  
The landscaped campus is one of the most attractive in Britain, and the university one of the most popular with 16 applicants for each place in 1991. The 12 halls in the university park ensure that all first-year students can be guaranteed a residential place. Best known for its sciences, developed from an association with the Boots family, Nottingham also has strong facilities in law and medicine. Pharmacy (three Bs required) and chemistry (BCD) are highly rated, and arts degrees are acquiring a growing reputation. A new arts centre opened this year. The university has switched to a modular course structure covering almost all degrees.

**TOMORROW**  
Nottingham Trent to York, and league tables for medicine, engineering, science, business and management, social sciences, languages and humanities

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## COMMENT

## RHM brands can defeat Hanson

Stanley Metcalfe may be wishing he had turned down the chance to take tea with Lord Hanson last week. Metcalfe, chairman of RHM, must now realise he has stirred feelings of deep unease among institutional shareholders. Some think it too cosy by half for a man in Metcalfe's shoes to enter the same room as Hanson let alone talk so soon after the launch of Hanson's hostile £780 million cash bid. The critics may have a point. It would surely have been diplomatic for Mr Metcalfe to await the publication of Hanson's detailed offer document. In the absence of the full details, there would not be a great deal for the two men to talk about unless Lord Hanson took Mr Metcalfe into his confidence and gave him a preview of the document. But this would require Mr Metcalfe's agreement to become an insider privy to the opposition's price sensitive information — surely an impossibly compromised position which Mr Metcalfe would have refused. Mr Metcalfe's description of the meeting, "a useful exchange of views" does at least have the merit of brevity. But for many shareholders it will be judged as lacking in substance. Either way Lord Hanson is off to a fine start in the battle for control of RHM. He would have judged correctly that a meeting of the two chairmen could harm only Mr Metcalfe while Hanson himself had nothing at all to lose.

As RHM and its advisers ponder their next step they might care to consider the negative reaction so far. They would reluctantly conclude that their shareholders have become used to depressing performance recently. RHM's management therefore has no great credit balance of goodwill upon which to draw in its hour of need, hence the instant fear that the meeting of the two chairmen was merely a prelude to a Hanson sweetener of say an extra 30p per share accompanied by an acceptance recommendation from RHM directors. But it is now clear that the last thing many RHM shareholders want is a quiet endgame. They want their chairman to go to war guns blazing and with any lingering doubts about the long term value of RHM's assets totally removed. They do not wish to become just another notch on Hanson's gun. In short, another Imperial group.

Hanson made a mint by breaking up Imperial's food operations and selling them for handsome prices. The net cost of buying Imperial's tobacco interests was substantially cut in the process. If a break-up is to be done then surely RHM should do it. The balance sheet at the end of August this year is expected to show that its brands are worth about £600 million. This flattering number, devised with the help of the Interbrand Consultancy that specialises in such exotica, makes all the difference. Including brands, RHM's assets are estimated at 300p per share compared with Hanson's 220p offer. Independent analysts also suggest that Hanson is seriously underpaying. Selling off non-baking businesses would leave him with £500 million of sales and £30 million of profit for nothing. RHM shareholders will now look to Mr Metcalfe to ensure this value accrues to them, not Hanson.

## Question time for a Chancellor at sixes and sevens with himself

Anatole Kaletsky wonders who is writing Norman Lamont's speeches explaining the government's new economic policy

On Thursday last week, Norman Lamont delivered his long-awaited address to the Conservative party conference, explaining the government's new economic policy. "It is clear that we must not go back into the ERM", he declared.

A few minutes earlier, the Treasury had sent an open letter from the Chancellor to the Commons Treasury committee. This also explained the government's new economic policy. The first paragraph read: "The government has made clear its intention to resume Britain's membership of the ERM".

This morning, the Treasury committee will have the chance to ask Mr Lamont personally which of the above statements he meant. But there are some other questions an alert committee member might want to put.

1. As a politician, I can assume that your promise in Brighton not to go back into the ERM, was simply rhetoric. So let us concentrate on your "clear intention to resume ERM membership". When will this occur?

2. You say that the three conditions for re-entry are "unlikely to be satisfied soon". But why? The first two of your conditions — an end to turbulence in foreign exchanges, and a chance for "reflection and analysis" by European finance ministers — are well on the way to being fulfilled. This leaves your most important condition — that "the requirements of German monetary policy and those of the UK must come closer in line". Will this really take long?

3. I know about the inflationary pressures from reunification, but the worst of them now seems to be past. The Bundesbank's money market operations have made clear that German interest rates are now heading downwards. Senior officials have said they no longer see excessive monetary

growth as an obstacle to gradual cuts in rates, and others have pointed out that Germany is in danger of falling into recession. Aren't the requirements of German and UK monetary policy now actually very close?

4. You disagree, but let me be more specific. Helmut Schlesinger said explicitly last week that his policy was now to hold money market rates below 9 per cent.

This is the same level which you judged to be appropriate for Britain's domestic interests. If 9 per cent rates are not the right level for Britain, why don't you move them up or down, and if they are the right level, then what is the difference between the monetary requirements in Britain and Germany at present? 5. You say there can be no certainty about the future direction of German monetary policy (and I can understand your reluctance to take public assurances from Bundesbank presidents at face value). You need the freedom to pursue Britain's objectives? But in your letter you said that the only objective of monetary policy was "to bring down inflation and to hold it down". And that was a view you repeated in Brighton — not once, but 17 times. Why, then are you not raising interest rates?

6. I know we are already within your target range of 1 to 4 per cent for inflation, but why not push inflation quickly down to the bottom of the range at once? If the lowest possible inflation is important enough to be the sole objective of government policy, then why should Britain have to wait until "the end of this parliament" to be in the lower part of the range?

7. Thank you for drawing my attention to paragraph nine of your letter, which says that the "strength and weakness of the economy will affect the pace at which we should move towards the long-term inflation objective". But if this

is the case, why did you not cut interest rates last week? We have now hit your 4 per cent inflation target and surely you are not hoping that the economy will weaken even further. Isn't this therefore the best possible time to relax "the pace at which we move towards the long-term objective" of even lower inflation?

8. You now say that you are worried about inflation accelerating beyond your target range in the future, despite the fall to 4 per cent last month. You refuse to disclose official forecasts, but you point out that the Treasury model, as run by the ITEM Club last week, projects inflation rising to 5.7 per cent at the end of 1994. If the government decides to "go for growth", according to the ITEM Club, this would mean cutting interest rates to 6.5 per cent by the middle of 1993. But the forecast of higher inflation depends on three key assumptions, which are highly questionable to say the least. I would like to ask about each of them in turn. First, why does the forecast assume that earnings will continue growing by over 6 per cent in the next four years?

9. You say that devaluation could feed into pay claims, according to the Treasury model. But that is actually an assumption built into the model itself. Fixing the model does not "prove" that inflation is on the way. The government is not powerless to stop a wage-price spiral. Why, for example, do you not announce before this very committee that public sector pay will be frozen for the next year? 10. You say that

next month's autumn statement is the "usual occasion" for making such announcements, but I would suggest that the present economic circumstances are unusual to say the least. In addition to pay, you could also say fiscal policy will be tightened as a *quid pro quo* for lower rates. This, too, is a possibility the Treasury forecasters ignore when they project the supposedly inflationary consequences of devaluation and lower interest rates. Why?

11. Thank you for reminding me. The government's policy is that inflation is a monetary phenomenon and can only be controlled by monetary means. Thus, there can be no choice between high interest rates and tighter fiscal policy in battling inflation. But may I suggest that the cause of inflation is a matter not of Treasury policy, but of empirical fact. Do you really believe that a public sector pay freeze and a sharp cut in public spending would make no difference to prospects for inflation?

12. I see. You do plan to curb public spending and pay, but you are not prepared to link this fiscal tightening to a monetary easing.

But do you not realise that public spending cuts not matched by big reductions in interest rates will push the economy even deeper into recession?

13. That answer was completely irrelevant. Low inflation may be necessary for sustainable economic growth, but is it sufficient as well? Does nobody in the Cabinet under-

stand the logical difference between a necessary and a sufficient condition?

14. All right, I will refer that question to the Secretary of State for Education, so let us move on to the second flaw in the Treasury's inflation forecasts. Why do they assume that interest rates are not cut sharply until the middle of next year? If you slashed rates immediately, when unemployment and excess industrial capacity are at a maximum, the inflationary impact will surely be smaller?

15. I know that you have recently cut interest rates by one percentage point and it takes time for the effects to feed through. But if you keep cutting rates by small steps and waiting for the results, thousands of businesses, jobs and homes will be lost in the meantime. To restore confidence will require much bolder action, you must surely agree?

16. I'm sorry, I forgot. Official policy is that bankruptcies, repossession and unemployment are acts of God against which the government is powerless, rather like hurricanes and devaluations. But, even in terms of your inflation objective, you are mistaken.

If you spin out the monetary easing over too long a period you will still be cutting interest rates when the next inflation is building up, just like Nigel Lawson. Why not slash interest rates now and stand ready to raise them later if inflationary pressures mount?

17. You say that gradualism is recommended by the Treasury and Bank of England. But for the past five years, their

advice has been consistently wrong. Instead of asking your officials for their recommendations, why don't you ask them for their resignations?

18. Yes, the Federal Reserve Board has also moved slowly, but this only proves my point. US interest rates are now at 3 per cent — and real interest rates are below zero, which is a sure pointer to future inflationary problems. And Fed caution has not stopped the dollar from falling against the mark, yen and even the pound.

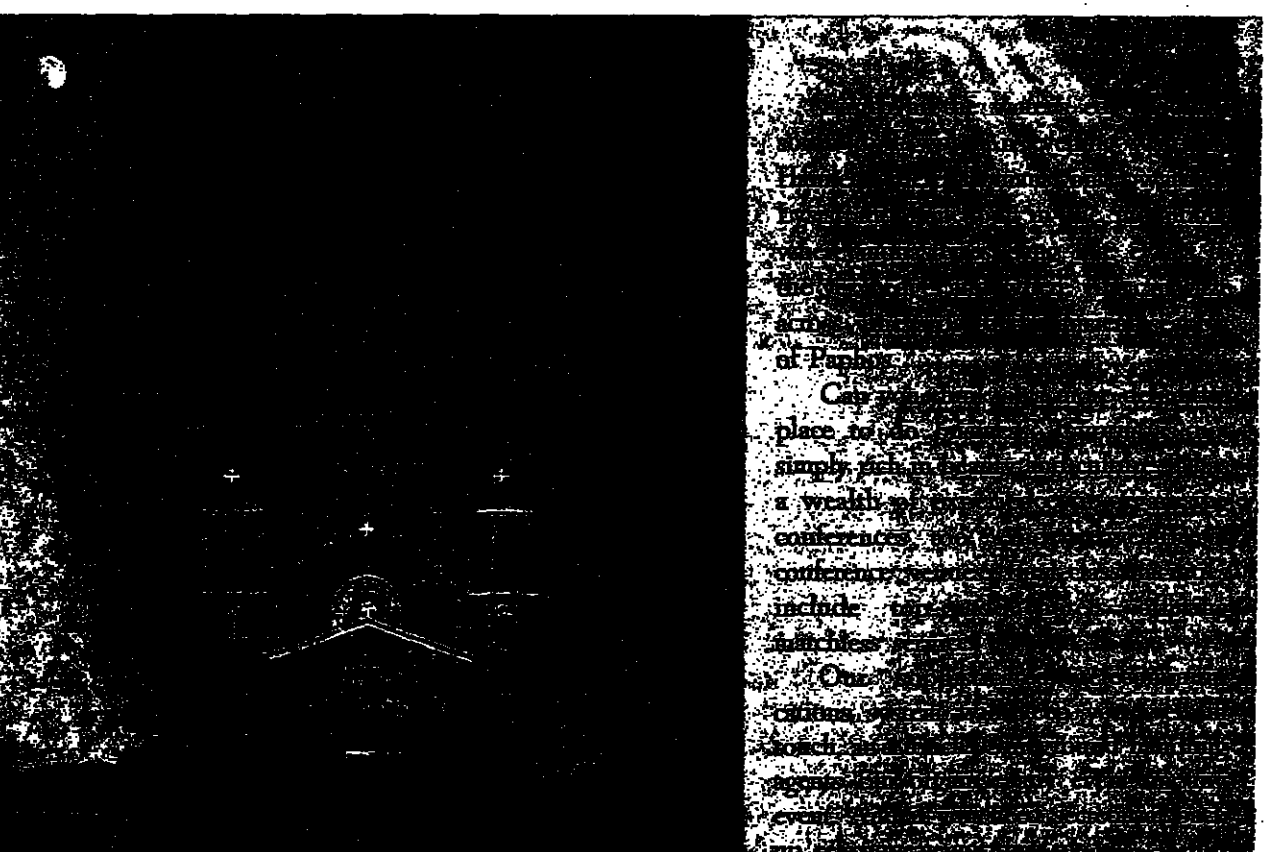
This raises my third question about your fears of inflation. In the ITEM forecast, sterling's trade weighted exchange rate continues to fall for the next four years. Naturally it is inflationary to go on devaluing once the economy recovers. But why assume a continuing devaluation?

19. Now everything is clear. Even in the "go for growth" forecast, the pound is assumed to go back into the ERM by 1994. By then, the mark will probably be falling against the dollar and therefore sterling will be falling too, just as the economy is recovering. It sounds exactly like Nigel Lawson's old policy of shadowing the mark from 1987 onwards. Of course, this will provoke inflation. I see now why you have promoted Lord Lawson's favourite advisers, instead of sacking them. I have just one further question.

20. Who is making government economic policy, now that you clearly are not? Is it Kenneth Clarke or Michael Heseltine? Or is it the ghost of Nigel Lawson?



In the hot seat: Norman Lamont faces close questioning from the Commons Treasury committee today



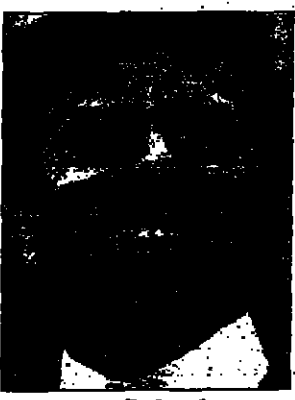
## THE SUCCESS OF ANY CONFERENCE DEPENDS ON THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS



## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## P&amp;D insures Euro future

UBS Phillips & Drew is believed to have committed about £400,000 in salaries, guaranteed bonuses and golden hellos, in order to get its new insurance research team, comprising Chris Hitchens and Angela Coad, on board. Coad, aged 32, due to start next week and Hitchens, 40, expected in November, had been speaking to P&D for at least four months and finally resigned from Hoare Govett a week ago. They will replace Youssef Ziai who now works for Morgan Stanley. The departure of Hitchens and Coad, ranked fifth in Exel's league table for the composite sector is a blow for Hoare Govett. Hitchens had been there for 12 years, and Coad for seven. Hector Sans, vice chairman of P&D's equities division, said: "Together with Andrew Goodwin, who has been following the European insurance sector for 15 years, the new appointments will



Forte: fitting face

give us very strong pan-European insurance coverage."

POST-CONFERENCE voice on train back to London: "Yes, but when will the Chancellor and Treasury start doing joined-up sums?"

## Irish stew

FROM now on, one of the first lessons for firms making senior members of staff redundant should be to ensure that

their lunch appointments have been cancelled. Lindsay Cook, Money editor of *The Times*, invited to lunch with two senior executives Allied Irish Bank at its flagship Berkeley Square branch, was greeted with embarrassed faces, hurried tannoy announcements and eventually a Biss Lancaster public relations person who muttered something about redundancies. The intended host, Symon Elliott, director of personal banking, was still in the building but instead of sitting down to eat, was clearing his desk. It was, according to Biss Lancaster, therefore deemed inappropriate for him to continue as the public voice of the bank. Unfortunately, no one had thought to tell the hungry Cook.

## Forte worth

ROCCO Forte, under fire from shareholders, has at least won a vote of confidence from Gemma Levine, the portrait photographer who put together the *Faces of the 80s* book,

which included Robert Maxwell and Margaret Thatcher. Levine has started work on *People of the 90s*, to be published in 1996, and is hoping to book Forte for a portrait session. She is also booking sessions with Peter Middleton, new chief executive of Lloyd's, and Greg Hutchings, of Tomkins, and is open to suggestions on which City and industry figures should be included. But Levine admits that she is starting early and that some snaps may end up being scrapped. So what are the odds of Rocco still being at the helm in 1996? Peter Joseph, hotels analyst at Smith New Court, believes "the chances of Rocco being around in some guise or another are quite high. There is no one in the hotel world doing what his father did in the '60s and '70s. Rocco is straight, honest and decent but he is definitely not one of the world's great hotel managers."

CAROL LEONARD







Hanson must  
pay more  
for RHM

# BUSINESS

MONDAY OCTOBER 12 1992

WEEK AHEAD 40

Companies  
reporting  
this week

## IN THE NEWS

### Tracking down the missing millions

ON the eve of Mirror Group Newspapers' annual meeting in July, Sir Robert Clark could have been forgiven a moment or two of worry. It was his first meeting as chairman: it was the company's first meeting since Robert Maxwell fell off his yacht and it was only three weeks since confirmation that £421 million of corporate and pension fund monies were missing, presumed lost. Others might have feared for their job. But not Sir Robert. His was safe. John Talbot had seen to that. John who?

John Talbot, head of corporate recovery at Arthur Andersen and the joint administrator to the Maxwell private companies that own almost 55 per cent of MGN.

Mr Talbot's task is to bring stability to MGN, thereby, he hopes, boosting the shares he controls and, one day, will sell. With £1.5 billion of debt in the private companies, he is as anxious as anyone to see MGN's shares recover to something nearer their 125p flotation price. At 58p, the shares stand on the sort of discount that even an Albanian slow-worm might notice. So unless a predator pounces, this week's interim is likely to be the first step in a lengthy rehabilitation.

Mr Talbot collects modern, figurative paintings and antiquarian books. He buys things that he likes, not because they are good investments. Unfortunately, so did Mr Maxwell. But publicity, additive to Mr Maxwell, is anathema to Mr Talbot. In July, when his proxy votes were ensuring Sir Robert's survival, Mr Talbot, 43, was watching wildlife in the Spanish mountains. But anyone who doubts his qualifications for hunting down the missing millions should bear in mind that this is a man who pursues snakes in the grass and vultures on holiday. Now that is dedication.

MATTHEW BOND

## Exit from ERM hits confidence of industrialists

By GEORGE SIVELL

REPORTS that industrial confidence has fallen sharply since Black Wednesday and that inflation could re-emerge as a problem appear this morning as Norman Lamont faces the Treasury Select Committee.

Markets will also be keenly awaiting the Chancellor's speech to the City at the Mansion House later in the month for further clues on economic policy. This morning, the ITEM Club, which uses the Treasury economic model for forecasting, concludes that if the government cuts interest rates to 6.5 per cent, then the economy will grow by 1.8 per cent in 1993 and 2.3 per cent in 1994. The price would be a rise in inflation to 5 per cent in 1994 which would force a tightening of policy, involving interest rates rising to 8-8.5 per cent to hold inflation in the 4-5 per cent range.

Conversely, ITEM argues that if interest rates are cut to only 8 per cent and sterling is taken back into the ERM at the end of next year, the econ-

■ The Treasury's economic model says that if the government cuts interest rates to 6.5 per cent inflation re-emerges in 1994. If base rates are kept high, unemployment rises

omy would grow by only 0.9 per cent in 1993 and 1.9 per cent in 1994. Inflation "does not accelerate far from current levels, though it is still 1-2 percentage points higher than it would have been in the absence of the depreciation" caused by the exit from the ERM. But unemployment is higher at 3.5 million and capacity use is 3 per cent lower because of slower average growth.

However, industrial confidence has fallen sharply since the Black Wednesday withdrawal from the ERM, according to a quarterly survey by Dun & Bradstreet. The survey of 1,900 managing directors shows that eight out of ten companies expect no improvement or a decline in sales, profits and new orders in the next three months. Only 4 per cent expect an improvement.

Philip Mellor, Dunn &

Bradstreet's marketing director, said: "Confidence in an export-led recovery is not as strong as might be expected after sterling's devaluation."

"Sales optimism has slipped and any increase in sales will be undermined by heavy discounting and price reductions and hence will not translate into improved profits. This indicates a further spate of very weak company results for the remainder of the year. Most managing directors regard a further reduction in interest rates as vital to improving their confidence for a recovery." Markets anticipate further cuts in base rates soon.

A survey taken of the financial services industry by the CBI before the pound's withdrawal from the ERM shows a continuing fall in confidence in the last three months. The survey of 300 financial services companies including banks, finance houses, fund managers and venture capitalists shows falling business volumes in the third quarter reversing a slight improvement achieved in the previous three months to the end of June. Building societies, securities traders and fund managers showed the most significant declines compared with three months ago.

A brighter note is struck by the latest monthly survey of fund managers conducted by Smith New Court and Gallup. It shows that most managers are bullish after Britain's exit from the ERM.

Sterling's departure had a marked effect on asset allocation and investors' forecasts for the British economy. The balance of fund managers' holdings of UK equities has risen to 28 per cent, the highest level since April. In contrast, a balance of 12 per cent of institutions intend to reduce their holdings of UK conventional gilts.

Lamont's grilling, page 1  
Economic View, page 42

## Hearing resumes on Coopers' partners

By OUR CITY STAFF

A PRIVATE disciplinary hearing of two partners from Coopers & Lybrand resumes today in the council chamber of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Moorgate, London.

Michael Jordan, head of Cork Gully, Coopers' insolvency practice, and Richard Stone, who heads corporate finance, appear before the council for allegedly breaching institute guidelines on professional conduct when they took on the administration of Polly Peck International in 1990.

A rival firm complained that Coopers & Lybrand should not have taken the work because there was a conflict of interest stemming from a relationship with Asil Nadir, the former chairman of Polly Peck, advising him on tax matters. Coopers countered that this was no secret and had been declared in the High Court when the accountant was appointed. As a result, another partner from Touche Ross was appointed joint administrator. Coopers returned to the High Court and had its appointment confirmed after the ICA said it must face a disciplinary hearing. The hearing, adjourned in August, is expected to last for at least three days. The ICA is expected to make its ruling public by Friday.

The case has wider implications for all accounting firms, which turn down work because of conflicts of interest. If found to be in breach, the two men face a fine and could be struck off the register and forbidden to practise.

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Hands full: Higgi Cox with two of the 10,000 Thunderbirds characters puppets

Thunderbirds are go. For Mrs Higgi Cox, the production manager of Pelham Puppets, of Calne, Wiltshire, the British puppet industry is reviving. Her company has just received an order for 10,000 characters starring in the Thunderbirds television series from the Toys 'R Us

company. But the factory making the International Rescue characters had to struggle for help itself in finding sufficient local workers to match demand. Mrs Cox needed another dozen workers but her local Jobcentre could only provide four in a town with 3,000 unemployed.

## HK Land to demand seats at Trafalgar

By NEIL BENNETT

HONGKONG Land executives will meet Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, this week to demand at least two seats on the construction and engineering group's board, despite the failure of its tender offer.

Trafalgar's board meets today at the group's head office in Mayfair to decide whether to grant Hongkong Land's demands. The group may decide to offer non-executive directorships provided Hongkong Land agrees to several pre-conditions. These could include an assurance that Hongkong Land would not launch a hostile bid.

In its defence document last week, Trafalgar said it was planning to appoint additional non-executive directors. Trafalgar's board will also discuss the group's imminent management changes.

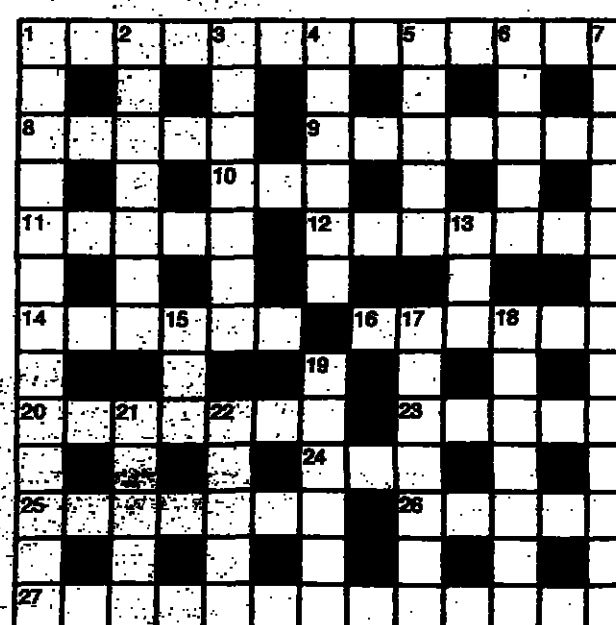
The group is expected to announce within the next two weeks that Allan Gormly, head of the engineering division, will replace Sir Eric Parker as group chief executive. It is also expected to name a successor to Sir Nigel and give details of a management reshuffle.

Mr Gormly, 53, played a key role in Trafalgar's presentations to its institutional shareholders last week alongside Sir Eric and John Ansell, the finance director. These presentations helped to convince fund managers not to accept the tender offer.

Robert Fleming, Hongkong Land's merchant banker, will announce this morning that the company's tender offer for 15 per cent of Trafalgar has flopped. The offer attracted less than 1 per cent of Trafalgar's shares.

Nevertheless, Hongkong Land is keen to increase its holding and is expected to gradually buy shares to raise its stake to at least 20 per cent, at which level it can equity account and include a proportion of Trafalgar's profits and assets in its own balance sheet.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2916



### ACROSS

- 1 Dust sucker (6,7)
- 8 Ship's heels (5)
- 9 Kenya capital (7)
- 10 World peace body (1,1,1)
- 11 Tanker (5)
- 12 Edible plant (7)
- 14 Essar (6,4)
- 16 Materialise (6)
- 20 Gradual assimilation (7)
- 23 Dam overflow (5)
- 24 "Longlife" milk (1,1,1)
- 25 Buller dancer (7)
- 26 Harden (5)
- 27 Strengthening (1,3)

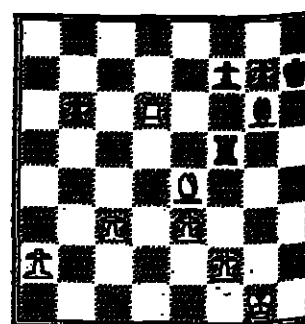
### DOWN

- 1 TV tape machine (5,8)
- 2 Musicians' saint (7)
- 3 Rapid rise (7)
- 4 Awning (6)
- 5 Live (5)
- 6 Not anybody (2-3)
- 7 Refund (1,3)
- 8 Rose fruit (3)
- 15 Pair (3)
- 17 Overlapping tile (7)
- 18 Support (7)
- 19 Greedy moneylender (6)
- 21 Anglesy Strain (7)
- 22 Paper pile (5)

### SOLUTIONS TO NO 2915

ACROSS: 1 Pub crawl 5 Amok 9 Morocco 10 Canon 11 Anna 12 Parook 14 Volume 16 Warren 19 Rambles 21 Melt 24 Clint 25 Council 26 Doge 27 Dewy-eyed  
DOWN: 1 Pump 2 Baron 3 Radskin 4 Whoops 6 Man hour 7 King Kong 8 Acer 13 Averaged 15 Limping 17 Armoury 18 Psyche 20 Lure 22 Lucky 23 Piod

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is a variation from the game Adams - Ward, Lloyds Bank 1982. Black is a pawn down, but has a chance to win. Can you see it?

Solution below.

Solution: black wins a piece with 1... f5+! 2 Bg2 Bxd4

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## Cabinet split on Jubilee issue

By ANGELA MACKAY

THE Cabinet will make its long-awaited decision this week on whether to build the £1.8 billion extension to the Jubilee Line and relocate 2,000 civil servants to London's Docklands - two issues critical to the success of the troubled Canary Wharf scheme.

As lobbying from the pro-Jubilee camp was stepped up last week, it became apparent that the Cabinet committee examining Docklands issues, chaired by Lord Wakeham, was split on both issues.

Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, and John MacGregor, the transport secretary, are believed to be in favour of the project while Michael Howard, the environment secretary and Michael Portillo, the chief secretary

to the Treasury, are against. The deciding vote will probably be cast by the prime minister.

It is now likely that 2,000 civil servants from the DoE will stay at their offices in Marsham Street, for the time being.

Administrators and bankers to Canary Wharf had made it a condition that the civil servants move before they chipped in £400 million, over 25 years, to help to build the Jubilee Link.

However, it became clear last week that the government would not agree to that.

The project's 11 banks, led by Barclays and Lloyds, also promised to give £100 million advance if the civil servants were relocated. However, this inducement is unlikely to sway

the Cabinet. Michael Pickard, chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation, yesterday accused the government of ignoring the economic advantages of committing its share of funds to the £1.8 billion extension to the Jubilee line.

Mr Pickard said the extension had been planned as the key transport link to the east and south of London where £10 billion - mostly from foreign investors - has already been committed to development in Docklands.

He said that a report for London Transport by Professor Douglas McWilliams had shown that half the costs to government, about £954 million, would be returned in tax revenues and savings in unemployment.

## Campaign coloured to taste

FROM MICHAEL HAMILTON  
IN JOHANNESBURG

FOR 150 years, while the famous black stout with the white head was conquering 22 other African nations, South Africa has remained a virtually Guinessless society. No more. For the past two weeks, Guiness has been trying to make up for lost time. For a month, the television airtime devoted to advertising the Genius will be half as much again as that for the largest selling beer in the land (Castle Lager). Posters (in three) line the highways leading to the principal black townships. Tokens are being distributed that allow your first bottle or can to be free.

It is not that the apartheid authorities did not approve of white and black coexisting in the same glass simply that Guiness was an imported premium beer, and the prob-



Black and white cheer

Walser, the new managing director of Guiness SA.

Guiness's image as a winter drink does not apparently do it any harm in hot countries, and there is an unspoken understanding in African and Asian societies that the drink enhances virility. Though Guiness is a strong beer in British public houses, with 4.7 per cent alcohol. Here, it has 7.5 per cent alcohol - almost as strong as a German Mosel or Rhine wine.

No white actors appear in the TV campaign. "We are not here to promote a multi-racial society," says Mr Walser. "It is purely a business decision. Our market is going to be among the blacks." Curiously, the star actor is an American black. "If we had used a South African, he would have been identified as a Zulu or a Xhosa, and the beer would have been identified with one tribal group," said Mr Walser.